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Wants 3,516 Churches

North Central 'Doubling' Reaches Part of 1990 Goal

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (BP) — North Central Mission Thrust is moving toward its goal of 3,516 Southern Baptist churches by 1990, participants in the mid-winter meeting of NCMT were told.

R. V. Haygood, executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, told more than 350 persons from the seven north central states that currently there are 2,025 churches in the area, plus 286 chapels.

The goal of the fellowship when it was organized in 1973 was to double the number of Southern Baptist churches in the area by 1990. At the time of organization, there were 1,758 churches and 180 church-type missions.

North Central Mission Thrust includes the state conventions in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio and fellowships in Iowa and Minnesota/Wisconsin.

The three-day fellowship meeting featured an array of testimonies by church planters, bivocational pastors and language mission pastors who are involved in starting work in the seven-state area.

Among those who spoke were Guy Morton, a former Boston Red Sox baseball catcher who has been pastor of a congregation in Wooster, Ohio, for 18 years and supports himself by teaching and coaching at a junior high school.

"Southern Baptists will lose the cutting edge of their growth unless they magnify the work of bivocational pastors," he said.

Another speaker, C. W. Hopson, told how he began a Baptist mission in Broadview, a suburb of Chicago, with 35 persons "including the children."

"All we had to begin with was a desk and chair," the black pastor said. "And at the time I knew practically nothing about Southern Baptists and cared less."

Last year, Hopson baptized 141 converts, received a total of 500 new members and has seen the church grow to one of the largest Southern Baptist congregations in Illinois.

Other testimonies came from Chanh Komavongsa, who was a pastor for 10 years in Laos before resettling in Iowa, and Juan Lujan, pastor of a

Spanish congregation in the quad-cities area of Illinois and Iowa.

"Most of our new members are converts who have accepted Christ since coming to the United States," Komavongsa said.

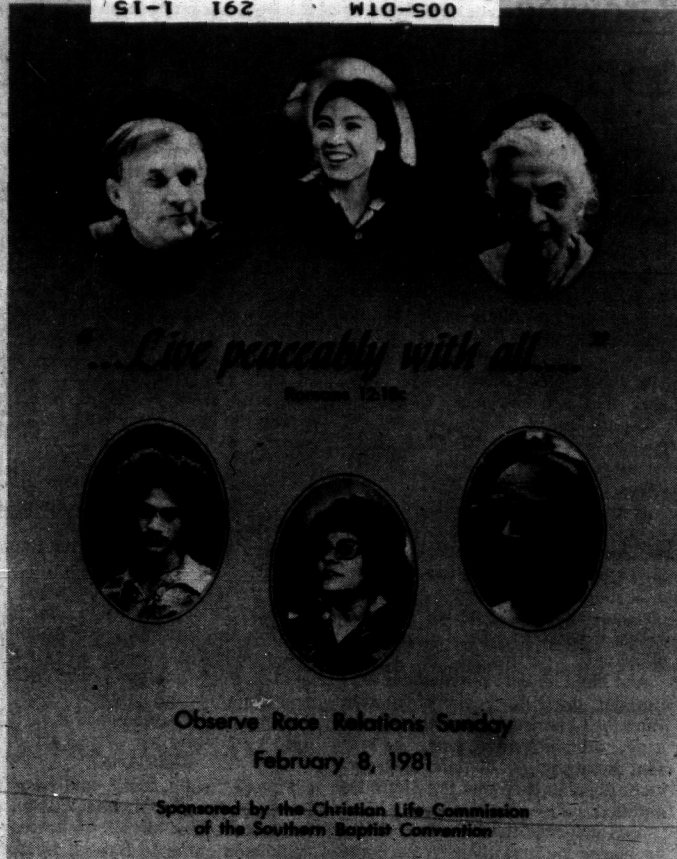
Lujan, who was saved as the result of a gospel tract his son found on a sidewalk in San Antonio, Texas, just six years ago, told how on faith he quit his job and enrolled in the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute. "The tract had been put there by Illinois native Fred Bishop, who was ridiculed by some for thinking that tracts which he scattered on the sidewalk and 'prayed over' would lead anyone to Christ," Lujan said.

"Twenty months after I found Christ, I was a pastor, and when the call came from the quad-cities area of Iowa and Illinois to start a new Spanish-speaking congregation, I came by faith," he said.

In a closing message, Ernest E. Mosley, executive director of the Illinois Baptist State Association (convention) and chairman of the NCMT steering committee, said if the 52 mil-

lion residents of the seven-state area are to be reached for Christ, it will not come from second-class gifts of God's people.

"We can't reach the masses by merely giving our money," Mosley said. "The first thing God wants from every person is the person himself. It's dedicated people who will reach indifferent people. If we offer our eyes and ears to God as daily gifts, he will give us eyes that really see and ears that really hear."



Don Pinto Builds God "A Place Of His Own"

By Jimmy Barrentine
Missionary to Paraguay

Stretched out to his fullest, with his shoes on, Don Pinto stands five feet tall. His hair is coal black. His face seems to be made of pressed leather. His back is bent and his shoulders stooped. His small hands are hard and rough. Only his quick, nervous movements and his sharp, blue eyes betray the excitement he feels about the Father's work.

Don Pinto has been a Christian for less than a year, but he has used the time well. Largely because of his testimony, eleven others have come to know Jesus.

Don Pinto cannot lead a Bible study or preach, so he simply gathers people together so they can pray and study the Bible together.

When possible, Pastor Tito Santa Cruz, missionary Jim Hausler or I meet with Don Pinto's group; but our visits are infrequent. Maybe we are

not greatly needed. After all, Don Pinto has seen his little study group grow until it could no longer fit into his house.

When it became apparent that the group was going to be too big for his small house, Don Pinto decided that "God deserved a place of His own."

With that in mind, Don Pinto set to work on the construction of a house of worship. He and his group have been in it for just over three months. It is small and very rustic, but that does not seem to matter.

Of course, Don Pinto's newness has caused a few problems. Pastor Santa Cruz was especially concerned when he found a very idealized painting of the Virgin Mary pasted on the front wall of the new building. Gently, but firmly, he explained to Don Pinto why it should not have been placed there. Don Pinto nodded his head and removed the painting.

Don Pinto has also had some trouble

understanding his denominational affiliation. He has had trouble understanding why such groups as Pentecostals and Seventh Day Adventists, should not be invited to hold meetings in the building. For him believers are believers. The fine points of doctrine mean very little to him.

Don Pinto has yet another problem. This one is common in Paraguay. He is not legally married to his wife. He has seen the need to legalize his marriage in order to strengthen his testimony, but it is not easy to go through a legal and a religious marriage ceremony after forty years of "just living together."

Still, problems or no, Don Pinto has started a church. He is doing his best to put his life in order, study God's Word, pray and tell others about Jesus. Not a bad beginning for one who has come from so far behind.

(Barrentine is a native of Magee, Miss. His wife Joan is from Crystal Springs.)

Remove Ten Commandments Advises Attorney General

By Norman Jameson

FRANKFORT, Ky. (BP) — Copies of the Ten Commandments posted in Kentucky public school classrooms should come down, according to an advisory opinion from the state attorney general.

Copies of the decalogue had been posted with private funds in every classroom in 106 of Kentucky's 120 counties. But on Nov. 17, 1980, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that a Kentucky law requiring the posting was unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court, however, issued no opinion as to what should be done with the copies of the Ten Commandments already posted with the \$250,000 raised for the purpose by such groups as Kentucky Heritage Founda-

tion. When the court refused the request of the Kentucky attorney general to clarify, Attorney General Steven Beshear issued his advisory.

The five-page opinion is not binding and does not have the force of law. Each of Kentucky's 121 school districts must now decide on their own to remove the plaques or leave them up. Beshear's advisory warned of the risk of litigation from private parties if the plaques were not removed.

Tom Riner, executive director of the Kentucky Heritage Foundation, said none of the 21,000 copies of the Ten Commandments already in Kentucky classrooms was posted under the statute stricken by the Supreme Court. Instead, they were posted under a similar authority through local school

boards using private donations.

Riner and his wife Claudia, the state representative who introduced legislation to require posting of the Ten Commandments in classrooms, feel the issue is a battle between state liberals, who control metropolitan Louisville and Lexington and state level office, and conservatives, who control most county and local governments in the predominantly rural state.

Correspondingly, they feel school boards in Louisville and Lexington, where there is a "distinct likelihood" of challenge to take the plaques down, will remove them. And in the rural areas, where the prevailing opinion is similar to that of a principal who told Riner "it's going to take more than Steve Beshear and the national guard to take these out of my classrooms," the plaques will probably stay up.

The Kentucky Heritage Foundation is continuing with its efforts to place copies of the Commandments in the 9,000 classrooms where they have yet to be posted.

Video Network Topics Chosen

By Tim Fields

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The first sixty topics on which video tapes will be produced have been selected by the newly-formed Southern Baptist Video Network.

The network was formed last fall as a cooperative effort by state conventions and Southern Baptist Convention agencies in order to produce and distribute at least 60 videotapes each year.

(Continued on page 3)

Out Of 'Promised' Land'

Road From Fanaticism To Faith

By Bonita Sparrow

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — For Hazel and Tommy Whitfield, the road from fanaticism to faith led through a landscape dotted with despair, disillusionment and dashed dreams.

They were caught up in a cult whose members follow a self-appointed messiah and believe they, instead of Israel's present citizens, are the actual chosen people of that "promised land."

At first they were as committed to their leader, Rabbi Ben Ammi Carter, as the members of the Guyana cult were committed to Jim Jones. They left their homes in Chicago for Israel where they expected to take over the land. They believed without question when they were told Ben Ammi was the messiah.

"Even when my mother died in Israel, I always felt someday Rabbi Ben Ammi would bring her back to life," Mrs. Whitfield says. "But when two of my children died, and I saw other people dying, I began to doubt."

Tommy, a musician who had played with B. B. King, James Brown, the



Hazel and Tommy Whitfield

Pharaohs; and with musicians who later formed Earth, Wind and Fire, and Hazel went to Israel in 1971. They joined members of the black Hebrew cult in a commune in Dimona, a city near the Negev Desert. In the next several years they renounced their American citizenship to keep the Is-

raelis from deporting them, saw one of their children starve to death and another die of inadequate medical treatment, and themselves suffered great mental and physical harassment.

Each family pays as much as the cost for 26 baby chicks, feed and feeding and watering devices as it can afford. Some families paid up to \$26; others paid as little as 65 cents. After the initial investment, the program should be self-supporting for each family.

In eight weeks some of the chickens will be sold and the profits used to buy more chicks and feed to repeat the cycle. Seven of the birds will be saved to provide the family one chicken per week during the next eight-week raising period for the next batch of chickens.

The program also will emphasize evangelism and stewardship, Wallace noted.

Each family will be asked to give one grown chicken to each of two non-Christian families as a means of Christian witness. "The temptation will be to take the money from the sale and

buy food and clothing and things they need," he said. "We're trying to instill in them that they will have to use that money to buy feed for the next batch of birds. We're also trying to impress on them that this is a gift from the Lord and from the Baptist people in America, and that they need to give back their part to God."

Wallace, who has held 10 teaching sessions with each family, will continue to visit regularly until the chicks are past the first crucial weeks of life. The lengthy instruction has kept the total number of families low, though Wallace expects to set up 75 families in the pilot project.

"We hope to teach these families the correct way to raise chickens, and they in turn can teach their friends. They are catching on quickly and will make good growers," he said.

Twenty-six chicks also went to the Baptist seminary in Trujillo, where they will be raised as low-cost meat for

(Continued on page 2)

FBC, Hattiesburg

Evangelism—Bible Conference, Feb. 2-4

Monday Night
PRESIDING — ROY COLLUM

- 6:20—Instrumental Ensemble First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg
- 6:45—Praise from the Keyboard Larry Pittman, Director
- 6:55—Vocal Witness Dot Pray, Organist
- 7:00—Prayer Irene Martin, Pianist
- 7:05—Congregational Singing Russell Newport
- 7:10—Welcome Dan C. Hall, Leading
- 7:20—Bible Study Roy Collum
- 7:30—Baptism Recognition James H. Smith
- 7:45—Musical Messages Roy Collum
- 8:00—Congregational Singing Dan C. Hall, Leading
- 8:15—Choral Message Church Choir, FBC Hattiesburg
- 8:30—Vocal Witness James Hayes, Director
- 8:40—Message Russell Newport
- 9:20—Benediction Richard Jackson

Tuesday Morning
PRESIDING — BRYANT CUMMINGS

- 8:30—Praise from the Keyboard Dot Pray, Organist
- 8:45—Vocal Witness Irene Martin, Pianist
- 8:55—Prayer Russell Newport
- 9:00—Congregational Singing Kathryn Barfield, leading
- 9:10—Bible Study James H. Smith
- 9:20—Congregational Singing Kathryn Barfield, leading
- 9:30—Vocal Witness Hubert Greer
- 9:40—Message Richard Jackson
- 10:10—Break
- 10:40—CONFERENCES
- 12:00—Adjourn

Tuesday Afternoon
PRESIDING — ROY COLLUM

- 1:25—Praise from the Keyboard Dot Pray, Organist
- 1:40—Vocal Witness Irene Martin, Pianist
- 1:50—Congregational Singing Dennis Meilstrup, leading
- 2:00—Bible Study James H. Smith
- 2:10—Choral Witness Mississippi Singing Churchmen
- 2:20—Congregational Singing Ensemble, South
- 2:30—Vocal Witness James Hayes, Director
- 2:40—Message Dennis Meilstrup, leading
- 2:50—Break
- 3:30—CONFERENCES
- 4:35—Adjourn

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Growing Years

Pryor, Wilkinson Honored: 25 Years' Service At MBMC

1955 was year of some import in the history of Baptist Hospital. It was then that Paul J. Pryor assumed the responsibilities of administrator of the 400-bed, brick structure located where it had been for the past four decades, at 1190 North State Street between Manish and Carlisle Streets.

Pryor came to MBH from Arkansas Baptist Hospital in Little Rock where he was assistant administrator for five years.

Of his coming to Baptist Pryor said, "I am really enthusiastic about the prospects for building a great Christian institution dedicated to a ministry of healing. I look forward to a long and pleasant association as we work together to build the type of hospital we all want."

And build he did: the Medical Arts Building, the Gifford School of Nursing (now the Chemical Dependency Unit), a new administrative wing, the present dietary production and linen services departments, and the Simmons addition.

Also under his direction the hospital developed the first intensive care and coronary care units in the state, a cobalt therapy unit for the treatment of cancer, a clean-air surgical suite, modern post-surgery recovery room, and cardiovascular department for open heart surgery.

Big Dreams

"Paul grew up in an era when there wasn't a lot of time to play, just to work," said Mary Ruth Pryor. "He's always enjoyed his work and that's made me feel good because he has worked so many hours besides the regular working hours. He's dedicated, had big dreams and aspirations. And he's the type person to see these aspirations through until they're completed."

In the late 60's plans began for a new medical center. Two square blocks facing North State Street were purchased. The actual building took three years (1973-1976). Every day of that three years Pryor was on hand, taking a personal interest in each step of construction. For him the completion of the \$35 million, 600-bed, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center was the culmi-

nation of a dream, a dream he saw to fruition.

Without a doubt, the greatest accomplishment for Pryor (and dream to become a reality) was the building and completion of the medical center according to Martha Black, MBMC administrative assistant who has known the head administrator for 25 years. "Mr. Pryor is a person who loves construction of buildings. He loves that day-by-day construction work, seeing the building going up each day and checking on things."

Today the completion of the Radiation Therapy Center is something he looks forward to. It gives him and the hospital the opportunity to offer Mississippians the quality of medical treatment for cancer previously available only in a few very large medical centers in the nation.

Completion is scheduled for early in 1981.

Right Arm

Pryor's "right arm", and hospital associate director, Michael Wilkinson, has also been at MBMC for 25 years. Wilkinson came to Baptist in April 1955. He worked for several years in the business office, climbed the ladder to administrative assistant, and ultimately associate director in 1976.

Besides hospital work, Pryor serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Mississippi. (He has served in this position since 1959, giving him the longest tenure on the board.) He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, a Fellow of the American College of Hospital Administrators, an active member of the Jackson Kiwanis Club and deacon at First Baptist Church.

According to Mrs. Pryor, he enjoys his civic activities and "especially enjoys traveling on vacations and also hospital meetings. And he loves his family — children and grandchildren."

Yet with all these activities to keep him occupied, hospital work and the MBMC employees have made him the happiest. Several friends will agree, Pryor always has time to talk with people, and he's genuinely interested

in their concerns, even if it isn't about the hospital.

Last September over 500 employees and friends attended a reception in honor of Mr. Pryor's and Mr. Wilkinson's 25 years of dedicated service — service to Baptist Hospital, its Board of Trustees, patients and employees.

The hospital's Board of Trustees held an anniversary luncheon for Mr. Pryor and Mr. Wilkinson, at which time they presented them each with handsome gold watches. Hospital department heads expressed their appreciation to their administrative leaders by presenting each of them with an ultra-suede sport jacket.

Louisiana Southern Baptist Principal 'Caught In Middle'

By Oscar Hoffmeyer Jr.

BUCKEYE, La. (BP) — Southern Baptist Charles Waites is "between a rock and a hard place" in the controversy over court orders seeking to racially balance Rapides Parish (county) schools.

Waites, principal of Buckeye High School, was caught between conflicting orders issued by a state judge and a federal judge about three girls attending the school.

Last summer, U.S. District Judge Nauman S. Scott issued an order to racially balance the schools in the parish east of Pineville. It involved closing some schools and busing students to another school 20 miles away.

Some 107 students who previously attended Buckeye were scheduled to be bused. Of them, 22 rode buses and the balance enrolled in a private school organized by Philadelphia Baptist Church. Included in the number who enrolled in the private school were three white girls who now want to return to Buckeye. One was head cheerleader there, Waites said.

The parents, seeking a way to allow their children to attend Buckeye, were advised they could move to the Buckeye community. They chose the latter.

When the girls started attending Buckeye, the federal judge determined they were attempting to pass his order and issued a directive they were not to attend the school.

State Judge Richard Lee then ruled they could attend Buckeye, and issued orders for state police to escort the girls to school.

Here Waites found himself "between the rock and a hard place." "No matter what I did I would be violating someone's order."

Waites, a member of Philadelphia Baptist Church, said the conflicts have created tensions and he doesn't know what will happen next. "But," he says, "I have learned that with the Lord's help, I can face daily challenges."

Waites, along with the state judge,

Tanner To Host Lay Luncheon

Bill Tanner, executive director of the Home Mission Board in Atlanta, will host a luncheon in Jackson, Feb. 14, for lay persons interested in involvement in Bold Missions projects.

Tanner will outline the missions opportunities for lay persons through the Home Mission Board in its ministries throughout the United States.

In 1980 more than 1,392 persons providing their own financial support, participated in missions projects in 27 states. These statistics are from figures compiled by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Brotherhood department which coordinates many missions projects.

The luncheon begins at noon on Saturday the 14th, and requires reservations be made at the host church. First Baptist Church, Jackson. Cost of the luncheon is \$6 per person. Reservations may be made by writing Schuyler Batson, First Baptist Church, Box 1158, Jackson, Miss. 39205, or phone 948-8780. Deadline for reservations is Feb. 11.

Grand Canyon Coach Now In Hall Of Fame

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP) — Dave Brazell, baseball coach at Grand Canyon College for 27 years, has been inducted into the American Association of College Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

Brazell started the baseball program at the Southern Baptist-affiliated college in 1953. Since 1968, when the Antelopes became eligible for post-season play, Brazell has taken his team to the playoffs every year.

He compiled a 721-361 record, and in 1980, the team was champion of the National Baseball Tournament.

Mr. Rogers Will Be Honored

Fred Rogers, creator and host of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," will receive the Distinguished Communications Recognition Award at the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's national Abe Lincoln Awards program February 12.

The Abe Lincoln Awards program, in its 12th year, will be at 7 p.m. at Tarrant County Convention Center.

Rogers' award, given for distinguished service in the field of communication, is one of the highest honors the Southern Baptist agency bestows.

Rogers, an ordained Presbyterian minister, will be cited for "creating, nurturing the emotional and ethical growth of millions of children who call him friend."

Melba Heard Joins Blue Mountain Staff

Melba Heard is the new director of financial aid and of public relations for Blue Mountain College. She began work on Jan. 5.

Prior to her work with BMC, she was for a year administrative program coordinator at Tippecanoe County Hospital in Ripley, where she and her husband, Phillip, live.

Mrs. Heard attended Mississippi State University and has been assistant to the assistant administrator at North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo.



Heard

Tennessee Journalist Dies Following Wreck

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Bobbie Durham, 34, an editorial assistant for the Baptist and Reflector, died Jan. 20, five days after she was injured in a traffic accident.

Mrs. Durham, who had worked for the newspaper, journal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, since 1971, was critically injured when her small car was struck by a fire truck Jan. 15. At the time of the accident, she was enroute to the Nashville airport to provide news and photo coverage of the departure of six Tennessee Baptist laymen who were going to Upper Volta to aid in relief projects of the convention and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

According to Nashville police, Mrs. Durham pulled to the side of a main thoroughfare to allow a fire truck on an emergency run to pass. Not realizing another truck was approaching, she

pulled back into traffic and was side-swiped by the second truck.

She suffered massive head injuries and was unconscious and sustained by life support systems from the time of the accident until her death.

Mrs. Durham was born in Denver, Colo., and was a journalism graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso. Before joining the Baptist and Reflector, she was editorial assistant of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. Previously, she was employed by the Baptist Sunday School Board and a reporter for a Denver newspaper.

Survivors include her husband, David, a son, David, age 11; her mother, Mrs. Doris Bagley of Denver, and a brother, Bill Bagley of Las Vegas, Nev.

A Bobbie Durham Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established through the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, P. O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027, and will be to aid students interested in religious journalism.

Raising Chickens In Peru

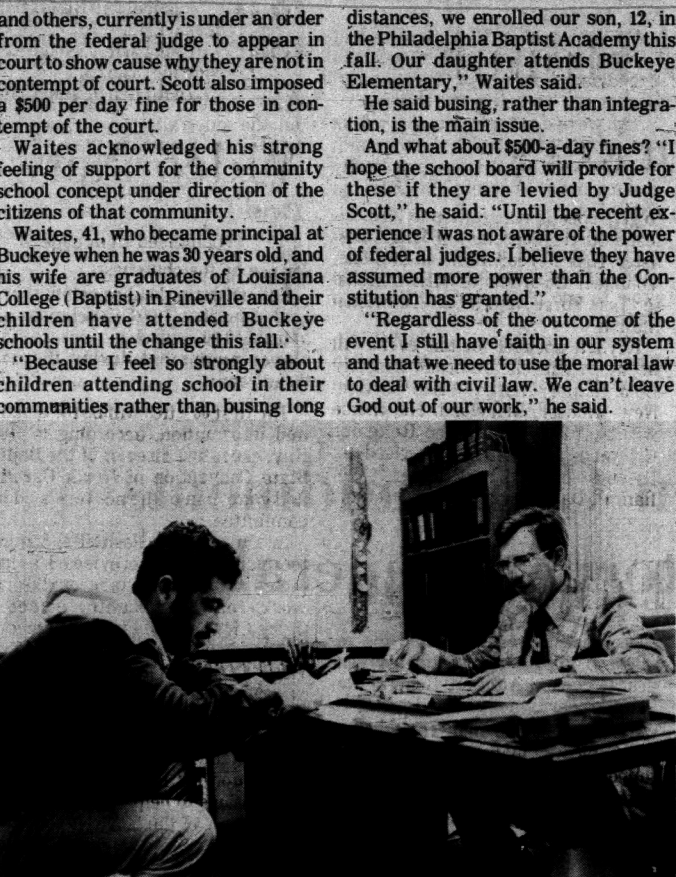
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the seminary students. A work scholarship will be offered to a student, who will raise the chickens in exchange for reduced education costs. Chicken-raising could become a source of income for a future Baptist pastor, a good feature in a poor nation where most pastors must supplement their incomes with secular employment.

Malnutrition is a common problem in Peru, particularly among children, Wallace said. "We don't have starvation, but many people die of diseases related to malnutrition. Many malnourished children also develop medical problems that show up later in adult life. Malnutrition among children has been identified as the nation's number one problem."

For Wallace, one of two missionary field evangelists in Trujillo, the work with chickens is particularly gratifying. Because he received a full scholarship to Mississippi State University, he considers his poultry education to be a gift from God. He feels strongly that God intends him to use his training in missions causes. "Peru seemed to be an ideal place for me to do this," he says.

Wallace also works with 20 churches and missions in the mountainous area near Trujillo and teaches in three centers for training church workers. Wallace's wife Peggy is a native of Jackson, Miss.



Rafael de Armas, pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista in Orlando, Fla., has earned a reputation as a "tough attorney." He's also a compassionate minister and uses every opportunity to share Christ with his clients. Says church education director Erma Moss, "He's a tremendous witness in the legal profession. I have seen many clients come to a knowledge of the Lord." (HMB photo by Paul Obregon)

Bilingual Lawyer-Pastor Witnesses To His Clients

ORLANDO, Fla. — Rafael de Armas is spiritual leader, legal advocate, a source of hope, a familiar voice in a familiar language. Spanish-speaking people in Orlando turn to him for legal advice and spiritual guidance.

De Armas, pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista, earned his law degree in 1975 after nearly 20 years in the ministry. He is one of the few, perhaps the only, Southern Baptist pastor who practices law. He also is among the first bilingual attorneys in Orlando.

Ten years earlier, he left a thriving ministry with Mexican migrant workers in Miami to become weekday minister at First Baptist Church in downtown Orlando. There he pioneered a variety of social ministries: migrant missions, street ministries and a thrift store. Under the umbrella of First Baptist, he began Primera Bautista.

Spanish-speaking people began to turn to him for more than spiritual counsel. His shrewdness, compassion and skill as a bilingual interpreter, soon earned him a reputation as an advocate for Hispanics.

When calls to get someone out of jail or interpret for a lawyer became too frequent, he realized he did not have the necessary skills to meet the growing demands. In 1972, he went to the University of Florida Law School in Gainesville "to see about getting someone to help." Urged by the school's dean, he ended up applying. To his surprise, he was accepted.

Primera supported his decision, and even voted to keep him as pastor. While he commuted to school, his wife, Clysta, worked fulltime with weekday ministries. Three years later, he passed the Florida bar. Meanwhile, 250-member Primera constituted into a church.

Man In Middle

As pastor/lawyer, de Armas is a man in the middle of two languages, two cultures, two professions, two lifestyles. Sandwiched into each day are hospital visits, alien interviews, prayer — and interruptions.

The interruptions include people like Rosa. A prostitute, she was accused of

stealing money from one of her clients. As court appointed attorney, de Armas believes she is innocent of the charge, though "guilty of being a prostitute, and I wish you'd quit that," he tells her.

"I pray the Lord will give me an opportunity to witness to her," he says later, as he prepares her defense.

How does de Armas feel about defending people like Rosa? "What kind of people need legal help?" he says. "Guilty ones. What kind of people need the church? Guilty ones. We are all guilty in one way or another; we all need help."

De Armas' secretary, Julie Folch, says that her boss witnesses to every client at some point during their relationship.

"He's a tough attorney," she adds, "and unbending when it comes to representing his clients." He's kind to other lawyers, "but they know he'll be tough in court." His competence, she believes, has earned him respect.

Others also support their pastor's legal work. "He's a tremendous witness in the legal profession," says church education director Erma Moss. Originally skeptical about combining law and ministry, she now says, "I have seen many clients come to a knowledge of the Lord."

Adds church member Rene Rodriguez, "Our church has grown under pastor de Armas' leadership since he became a lawyer."

De Armas feels his dual role has been beneficial for ministry. "Law has made me a better pastor," he says. "It has sharpened my skills." Both, he adds, involve "speaking, persuading and understanding folks."

He is realistic about the relentless demands of two professions. Sometimes work pulls him from his family, but he quickly adds "the Lord's strength" has kept him from being consumed by either profession.

"There are no easy answers," de Armas concludes, "yet if I had to give up one job, it would be law."

Clysta, "but we taken it one step at a time for the past five years. I know this is what God has called him to do."

Three New Chairmen

Southern Baptists In Congress Show Diversity

By Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP) — Southern Baptist members of the 97th Congress reflect the diversity of the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

Like the 13.6 million Southern Baptists in the U.S., the 36 members of the new Congress known to be affiliated with Southern Baptist churches hold views all along the political spectrum, but with a decidedly conservative bent.

The diversity is immediately apparent in the Senate where three of the six members with Southern Baptist ties gained chairmanships of three important committees when the Republicans became the majority party following last November's elections.

Conservative Senators Strom Thurmond, who heads the Judiciary Committee, and Jesse Helms, who

R-Miss.; Wendell H. Ford, D-Ky.; and J. Bennett Johnston, D-La. in the House of Representatives, 30 of the 45 Baptist members are known to have SBC affiliations.

Among the veteran members are Carl D. Perkins, D-Ky., chairman of the Education and Labor Committee; Claude Pepper, D-Fla., chairman of the Select Committee on Aging; and Trent Lott, R-Miss., new minority whip.

Other House members with SBC affiliations are Ike F. Andrews, D-N.C.; Wendell Bailey, D-Mo.; D. Douglas Barnard, D-Ga.; Tom Bevill, D-Ala.; David R. Bowen, D-Miss.; Jack T. Brinkley, D-Ga.; James T. Broyhill, R-N.C.; James M. Collins, D-Texas; Dan Daniel, D-Va.; Jack Fields, R-Texas; Newton L. Gingrich, D-Ga.; Ronald (Bo) Ginn, D-Ga.; Albert Gore Jr., D-Tenn.; and Kent Hance, D-Texas.

Also, W. G. Hefner, D-N.C.; Jack Hightower, D-Texas; Jon C. Hinson, R-Miss.; Carroll Hubbard Jr., D-Ky.; Earl Hutto, D-Fla.; Edgar L. Jenkins, D-Ga.; Walter B. Jones, D-N.C.; Gillis W. Long, D-La.; Jim Mattox, D-Texas; William H. Natcher, D-Ky.; Harold Rogers, R-Ky.; Albert Lee Smith Jr., R-Ala.; and Charles O. Whitley, D-N.C.

Grand Canyon Coach Now In Hall Of Fame

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chairs the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, stand in contrast with Mark O. Hatfield, R-Ore., new chairman of the powerful Appropriations Committee and one of the Senate's most liberal Republicans. Hatfield, who comes from a Conservative Baptist Association background, is a member of an SBC congregation here.

The controversial issue of prayer in public school illustrates the variety of positions held by Baptist members of the Senate.

Helms, a long-time advocate of changing either the Constitution or the law (by limiting federal court jurisdiction) to counteract Supreme Court decisions barring state-mandated prayer in schools, will have the added support of Thurmond's position as head of the Judiciary Committee in his Congress. Their position is opposed by Hatfield.

Though Helms of North Carolina and Thurmond of South Carolina contend what they seek is "voluntary prayer," proponents of church-state separation insist proposals such as the Helms Amendment to S. 450 which died in the 96th Congress, open the door for state-mandated prayer in schools.

Hatfield's stance coincides with the position of the Southern Baptist Convention which was reaffirmed at its 1980 meeting in St. Louis, supporting the 1962 and 1963 Supreme Court decisions on the basis of the church-state separation requirement of the First Amendment.

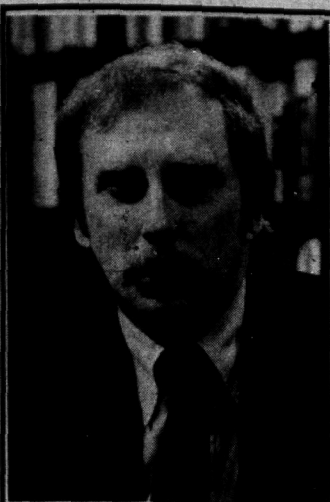
Other Southern Baptist members of the Senate are Thad Cochran,

Interpreters Needed In L.A.

Those planning to attend the Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles, Calif., who can help interpret for the deaf are urged to contact Cathy Townley, 4721 North Ceder, No. 105, Fresno, Calif., 93726.

The WMU Convention and Pastor's Conference will begin Sunday, June 7-8. The Southern Baptist Convention begins Tuesday,

description of interpreting skills and/or training.



James Dunn is the new Baptist Joint Committee executive.

Dunn 'Realistic,' 'Hopeful' On Church-State Relations

By Stan Hasley
WASHINGTON (BP) — The new director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs says he is "realistic but hopeful" about the future of church-state relations in the United States despite the rise to power of a president and political party publicly committed to profound changes in the area.

James M. Dunn, who became the fourth executive director of the Washington-based Baptist agency Jan. 1, pledged to "applaud and support" initiatives of President Ronald Reagan's administration for church-state separation and human rights.

But Dunn, 48, also promised to "push for change where change is needed" and to criticize when government policy runs counter to historic Baptist positions.

Dunn said: "The responsibility of this agency to bear Christian witness to questions of public policy — specifically religious freedom — is so consistent and so overwhelming and so overriding, that the relative difference in the way we relate to one administration or the other is very unimportant."

Dunn recalled a bitter conflict between the agency's first chief executive, Joseph M. Dawson, and then President Harry S. Truman over the latter's appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican, and noted that the Baptist Joint Committee "is not without a history of dogfights."

"I expect sometimes to have to fight," he added. He emphasized, however, that opposition to any incumbent president will not be based on party affiliation. "It is not Democrats or Republicans alone who oppose taking public moneys and spending them for private and parochial schools," he declared, citing one of the issues expected to be debated vigorously in coming months.

When asked to assess the potential influence and staying

power of the religious right, whose positions on church-state issues almost uniformly run counter to those of this agency, Dunn said the movement's danger "may lie in the fact that it has no consistent, noble, theological sound vision for America."

"The danger exists not in that they are a massive, well-organized, ideologically coherent threat," he said. "The danger exists in that they have missed the profound theological roots that any Christian witness has to have. They haven't studied church history. They are not in harmony with the discipline of Christian social ethics."

Asked to identify other pressing issues to be confronted by the Baptist Joint Committee, Dunn cited a cluster of education issues, including prayer in schools and tuition tax credits; what he called "bureaucratic intervention" into church affairs; attempts to restrict personal liberties through proposed amendments to the U.S. Constitution and what he termed "quality of life" issues, including hunger, crime and privacy.

One of his most "anguishing" tasks, Dunn said, will be to limit such a broad agenda in order to maximize the agency's effectiveness. "If we do anything well," he elaborated, "we will have to do fewer rather than more things."

Dunn, who for 12 years was director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, insisted the Baptist Joint Committee is eager to serve sister denominational agen-

cies in an enabling role. He added he will maintain an open-door policy for all denominational agencies and institutions wishing to use the Baptist Joint Committee as a base for their work in Washington.

Another pressing task, Dunn noted, is how to involve more Baptists in the process of influencing government on key issues. A project already begun is development of a network of Baptists throughout the country who would be available instantly to work on specific bills in Congress.

The overriding job of the Baptist Joint Committee, Dunn insisted, "is serving as eyes and ears for Baptists who will hear and see" as they seek to relate to government.

Vitality In Diversity

The fact that Baptists disagree with one another on virtually every public issue does not discourage him. "In that diversity there is vitality," he said.

The Baptist Joint Committee has a serious stewardship task in maintaining a tradition of holding up the best in Baptist life, the best in Baptist theology and the best in Baptist history, he added.

"In that sense we must be rock-ribbed conservatives" in clinging to "what Baptists have fought and died for."

At the same time, he declared, "we need to be dangerously innovative in trying to find ways to communicate this Baptist distinctive... on the complex issues and problems of the day."

Religious Leadership Conference

Banquet To Honor Disaster Workers

The Mississippi Religious Leadership Conference's annual banquet will be held Feb. 12 at the Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church, Jackson, at 6:30 p.m. The theme of the banquet is "The Role of the Religious Community in Meeting the Needs of Persons Affected by Disaster," according to William E. McKnight, chairman.

In keeping with the theme, the MRLC has chosen to honor Mrs. Susannah Cherney, Executive Director of MRLC Disaster Task Force, and

to give special recognition to Mrs. Allean Currie, Secretary of MRLC Disaster Task Force; Mrs. Linda Stone, Volunteer Co-ordinator MRLC Disaster Task Force; and WLBT-Television Station.

Keynote speaker for this event will be W. D. Dibrell, Domestic Disaster Co-ordinator Church World Service, New Windsor, Maryland. His theme will be "The Role of the Religious Community in Meeting the Needs of Persons Affected by Disaster." William P. Davis is executive secretary.

Road From Fanaticism To Faith . . .

(Continued from page 1)
our own family in a group that preached love and wouldn't lift a finger to help us from starving. And these people who didn't even know us were helping. I had never in my life seen anything like that."

Mary Ann Burnham took Mrs. Whitfield to the jail to see Tommy. Mrs. Whitfield moved to the Baptist Village and her baby was born in the Baptist Hospital at Gaza.

The people at Baptist Village worked with the Whitfields on their immigration papers with special help from Jimmy Allen, president of the Television Committee. Jimmy Allen, who was then president of the Southern Baptist Convention. His influence with both the Israeli and U. S. governments was instrumental in getting the Whitfields' immigration permission.

The Baptist Village missionaries also worked to get Whitfield out of jail on bail released into their custody. "But they mainly showed us how they felt about us," says Mrs. Whitfield. "I learned more about love than I had ever learned in my life. They didn't talk about love. They lived it. They were concerned about me, about my children. I couldn't turn away from it. I had no intention of accepting Christ, none. But I couldn't get away from all that love."

"I Love You"
Whitfield, out of jail, was convinced it was all real when he and his wife saw their three-year-old son, who had been subjected to so much mistreatment in the cult that he had never talked, wrap his arms around Jim Burnham's knees and announce, "I love you."

"We wanted to be Christians, to be a part of that love," Whitfield said. It means a great deal to them that they were baptized in the Jordan River.

"How could we have been so taken in by the cult?" Mrs. Whitfield asked. "Ben Ammi Carter convinced us America was going to be destroyed and we should flee from its destruction. He said we were the chosen people of Israel. He promised we would all live together in love, we would be equal, and we would have an identity as people."

"That had never been said to us before. We wanted to live where we wouldn't have to worry about our kids being involved with drugs, or our daughter being molested walking down the street. It seemed like a haven."

But living conditions were poor. There were 25 to 30 people living in each two-bedroom apartment. There was no real hygiene, no privacy. The Whitfields got used to never being alone. They were not allowed to question anything. Because they didn't always behave as the cult leaders decreed, the Whitfields saw their marriage annulled, and their children cared for and punished by other people. Some cult children were

were starving and their tables were full. They were living well and were supporting it. The leaders were using my music to draw others to them but when we did some of the things the leaders did, we'd be punished for it."

Today, thanks to miracles the couple relate directly to prayer, they are back in Chicago Heights. Whitfield is working at Stauffer Chemical, "not getting rich but not going hungry."

They are involved in Faith Tabernacle Baptist Church, where members practice the same kind of love found in the Baptist Village in Israel. Their pastor, Don Sharp, has just been elected president of the Illinois Baptist Convention.

Jimmy Allen, sunlight experience with Christ, but they are still concerned about family members remaining in the cult in Israel. "We want to let everybody know that God lives within us. That the Messiah has come and is in the hearts of his followers," Whitfield sums up.

Human Relations Sunday Is Set

Sunday, February 8, has been designated by the Mississippi Baptist Convention as Human Relations Sunday. Last fall suggestions were sent out to the pastors in a special packet prepared for the observance of a Human Relations emphasis.

While February 8th has been designated as a possible Sunday, it has been suggested that any time in February would be a suitable time.

Many Mississippi Baptist churches observe Race Relations Sunday each year. Others do not. J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the Christian Action Commission, stated in his letter to the pastors: "It is our purpose to broaden the base to include aspects of human relations other than race."

"This packet of materials will hopefully give you a choice in your doctrinal education effort. You and your church may feel that some issue other than the ones suggested should be given priority with your people at this time."

Among suggestions made were emphases on human relations, a ministry of reconciliation; poverty; and consideration of other ethnic groups in Mississippi. Enclosed also was a fact sheet about the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, now headed by Richard Brogan.

Pastors annually receive a Race Relations Packet from the Home Mission Board and the Christian Life Commission who are mandated to send this material each year.

Another alternate suggestion was a study in the faces of prejudice, not just skin color prejudice, but prejudice of all kinds.

will be interested to have a report of observances held in February in this type of emphasis on human relations.

Mississippi Baptist Activities

- Feb. 24 Evangelism/Bible Conference; FBC, Hattiesburg; 6:45 p.m., 2nd-12 noon, 4th
- Feb. 6 Young Adult Sunday School Leadership Workshop; FBC, Jackson; 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- Youth Leadership Conclave; FBC, Biloxi; 6:30-10 p.m.

Video Network Topics

(Continued from page 1)
for use by the churches.

The network also has established a goal of leading, 1,000 associations and at least 10,000 churches to secure video player equipment during the next three years.

The first 60 titles will be for training and information, according to Cecil Ray, executive director of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and chairman of the network's ad hoc committee.

In a meeting in Nashville, committee members also previewed a completed promotional tape on the network, featuring country comedian Jerry Clower. The tape, produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, explains the goals and purpose of the network.

Jimmy Allen, president of the RTVC, said the promotional tape is being made available to each state convention for loan to churches and associations to help them understand the purpose of the network.

To finance projects of the network, the committee is calling for Baptist state conventions to contribute nearly \$1 million during the next three years. Each convention is being asked to allocate the equivalent of \$10 per church per year for three years.

"In return for their investment, each participating convention will receive one copy of every videotape produced by the network," Ray explained. "Baptist state conventions can then personalize, duplicate and distribute the tapes to churches any way they wish," he said.

In addition to the \$1 million which the network hopes to collect, the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission has agreed to produce the first 25 tapes for "out-of-pocket" expenses.

Allen said this would constitute a savings of nearly \$125,000 in production costs to "clients" of the network.

Allen told the committee that the first tape in the series of 60 has already been completed by his agency for the

Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

The tape entitled "Three Essentials for Marriage" features family and marriage therapist David Mace at Ridgecrest Conference Center and is one of a series of five tapes supporting the 1982-85 convention theme on strengthening families. The other four tapes in the series will be completed by mid-February.

A sampling of other titles to be produced this year include "The Pastor Leading the Sunday School in Growth," "Introduction to Church Training," "The Purpose and Plan of Baptist Brotherhood," "This Is Woman's Missionary Union," "How the Cooperative Program Works," and "Volunteers in Missions." Other how-to tapes will center on evangelism, church music, church administration, home and foreign missions, the family, and Christian and ethical concerns.

According to Ray, tapes produced through the network will be distributed primarily through the Baptist Sunday School Board film centers and through state conventions. Southern Baptist agencies can distribute tapes which relate to their program assignments, Ray said.

"Depending on the degree of subsidy provided by the network, tapes will be made available to churches free or on a service fee, rental or cost recovery basis," he explained.

In addition to distribution of software programs, the video network has made arrangements with the Sunday School Board to provide video hardware at reduced prices.

Prices for a commercial 1/2-inch VHS two-hour video playback unit and an accompanying color television monitor start at approximately \$1,500.

The video network wants to encourage churches to use the less expensive 1/4-inch player and will produce the majority of tapes in the 1/4-inch VHS format although 1/2-inch tapes can be made available.

Evangelism—Bible

(Continued from page 1)

Tuesday Night PRESIDING — BRYANT CUMMINGS

- 6:30—Praise from Handbells Mississippi Churchmen Handbells, Truitt Roberts, Director
- 6:45—Praise from the Keyboard Dot Pray, Organist
- 6:50—Vocal Witness Irene Martin, Pianist
- 7:00—Bible Study Russell Newport
- 7:30—Congregational Singing Bob Jones
- 7:45—Message Joel C. Gregory
- 8:15—Fastest Growing Sunday Schools Jimmy McCaleb, leading
- 8:20—Congregational Singing Buddy & Kathy Mathis
- 8:40—Message John Havlik
- 8:45—Vocal Witness Bryant Cummings
- 9:00—Bible Study Bob Jones, leading
- 9:30—Congregational Singing Mississippi Singing Churchmen
- 9:45—Message Dan C. Hall, Director
- 10:00—Vocal Witness Bailey E. Smith
- 10:10—Congregational Singing Cecil Harper
- 10:15—Vocal Witness Cecil Harper

Wednesday Morning PRESIDING — ROY COLLUM

- 8:45—Praise from the Keyboard Dot Pray, Organist
- 8:55—Vocal Witness Irene Martin, Pianist
- 9:00—Bible Study Russell Newport
- 9:30—Congregational Singing Joel C. Gregory
- 9:40—Vocal Witness Tom Larrimore, leading
- 9:45—Message Rainey Family
- 10:00—Bible Study John Havlik
- 10:10—Congregational Singing Tom Larrimore, leading
- 10:15—Vocal Witness Tommy & Diann Winders
- 10:40—Message Bobby Shurden
- 11:00—Prayer Period Rell & Darleyn Webber
- 11:25—Vocal Witness Don Moore
- 11:40—Message Cynid Grace
- 11:50—Vocal Witness Russell Newport

Mike Livingston Rejoins Brotherhood Commission

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Mississippian Mike Livingston, news writer for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will become editor for the Brotherhood Commission's Baptist Men's division Feb. 15.

The division publishes *World Mission Journal*, a monthly tabloid; a Baptist men's handbook; annual curriculum guide; and books, brochures and promotion pieces.

William Bingham, printing account executive and author from Annapolis, Md., will become associate division editor at the same time. Bingham replaces David Wilkinson who left to become student and news director at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Livingston, 41, who was at the Foreign Mission Board eight months, was associate editor for four years of *Probe*, a youth monthly, and *Pioneer Plans*, a quarterly for youth leaders, published by the Brotherhood Commission. He replaces Jim Newton who joined the Home Mission Board as news editor.

Livingston graduated from Memphis State University in 1973 and has directed public relations for Northwest Junior College in Senatobia, Miss.

Bingham, 37, is author of "The Journey into Small Groups," a book used in lay renewal, and co-author of a college textbook on biology. He is a former director of biological laboratories for George Washington

University in Washington, D.C. He is a graduate of Parsons College. He most recently was production manager of Eastport Lithograph Inc. in Annapolis.

GAs, Mission Friends Study Seamen's Work

The directors of the two seamen's ministries on the Mississippi coast note that GAs and Mission Friends will be studying about seamen's ministries in the first quarter of this year.

Both invite leaders to write or call to obtain information about their programs, encourage visits to the centers, or even help provide supplies as a mission project.

The two ministries are in Gulfport and in Pascagoula. Paul Vandercook directs the one in Gulfport at Box 2583, Gulfport, Miss., 39503, phone 832-4311. William Moote directs the one in Pascagoula at Box 1726, Pascagoula, Miss., 38567, phone 769-7101.

Nat'l Baptist Leadership Meets Planned

A series of annual leadership conferences jointly sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Seminary and Woman's Missionary Union has been scheduled for Feb. 17-22.

Seminary President Dick Brogan will lead the conferences for pastors and laymen. Margaret Perkins will lead training sessions for women.

Mrs. Perkins is employed by the Home Mission Board as WMU consultant for ministries of National and Southern Baptist churches. She will discuss the work of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance.

Dates, times, and places for the conferences include: Feb. 15, 2:30-4 p.m., Mississippi Baptist Seminary, Jackson; Feb. 17, 7:30-9 p.m., Mercy Seat Baptist Church, Pratt Street, Gulfport; Feb. 18, 7:30-9 p.m., New Prospect Baptist Church, 9th Ave., 19th St., Meridian; Feb. 19, 7-9 p.m., Rising Star Baptist Church, North Madison, Tupelo; and Feb. 20 at the North Miss. BME Convention Center, Hernando.

On Feb. 16-17, there will be a pastors' and ministers' wives retreat at Sophia Sutton Assembly, Prentiss.

Ann Smith Will Lead Singles

Alexander Smith, single adult minister, family ministry, Sunday School Board, will be a special guest and conference leader at the Single Adult Retreat at Gulfshore May 22-24.

The theme of the event will be "Celebrate: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," and the program is designed for all young and median single adults, with emphasis upon Christian growth and development.

Among other program personalities will be Maurine Freeze, a single from Little Rock, Arkansas, and Alan Stevens, a single Christian entertainer from St. Louis, Mo., who will lead in the music and fellowship activities.

The program will begin with dinner at 6 p.m. Friday and will conclude Sunday noon.

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Dramatic memories . . .

The journey home from captivity

Jan. 20, of course, was one of the more significant single days in American history. A new President was sworn in, and the 52 American hostages left Iran.

There have been other dramatic days. We remember watching international television as the prisoners of the Vietnam war made their way home. Who could forget the American victory over Russia in the hockey competition at the Winter Olympics? Many other days will live in memory.

There was V-J Day, brought on by two atomic explosions.

Some will even mention Mississippi State, 6 - Alabama, 3.

Still, Jan. 20 will have to remain as one of the very special days. Surely multiplied millions of pairs of eyes were glued to television sets that night as the former hostages came off the

airplane in Algiers. They were out of the control of the Iranians at last.

Surely I was no more emotionally involved than any other American citizen as that group began to make its way down the airplane steps. But perhaps I could understand what they had been going through a little better than the average citizen. I once spent six months under similar circumstances. That was a long time ago. I spent my 21st birthday in a prisoner-of-war camp.

Many of the experiences are never remembered unless something forces them to mind. The one overriding feeling all the way through was the frustration of having absolutely no control over my own circumstances and having no idea when those conditions would change, if ever in my lifetime. This left its mark on me and no doubt will also with the 52 recently freed hos-

tages.

Twenty-five of the original 200 in my camp were not at the camp when the war was over. They either had died or had become so sick they couldn't carry on. Some lost the will to make it. It took more than ordinary will power on the part of all 52 hostages to survive the 444 days and be able to walk off the plane in Algiers smiling.

We were all happy to see that ordeal come to a close. Perhaps Warren Christopher will be a modern American hero for his role in leading the American negotiation team.

As a nation we prayed for that group. As a nation we watched them walk down the steps to freedom. Now let us thank God that they are free.

Watching the return of the 52 on television reminded me of my own journey so many years ago from Sudetenland

to Czechoslovakia to France to the United States and hearing for the first time the then popular song "Sentimental Journey" as I sat in a bus station in San Antonio waiting to make the last leg of my journey to Waco, Texas. And then I remembered being privileged as a reporter, then the associate editor of the Baptist Standard in Texas, to be in Matamoros, Mexico, to meet the David Fites and the Herbert Caudills as they arrived in that city on their way back home following the imprisonment by Castro in Cuba of Fite and Caudill. The two families had been serving the Home Mission Board as missionaries to Cuba before the men were arrested.

There are many memories of similar situations. Let us pray that there will be no future occasion for such memories. — DTM



Nola Granberry, MSC

"Mi casa es su casa." Nola Granberry wrote me last September, and I guess she meant it, for she certainly made me feel welcome at her house when I went to El Paso in November. I spent one night at her lovely place (Apt. 12, 900 Magnetic) and ate there two superb meals that she cooked. From her dining table I looked out the window toward the Franklin Mountains. Though I'd not met her before, except through letters, I felt at home with her immediately, for she is a Mississippi native.

Nola is a grandmother, a widow, and a retired teacher and journalist. Right now she's in the middle of her third year as a volunteer with the Mission Service Corps of the Foreign Mission Board, financing her own mission venture. During the two or three days I was with her, she was busier than any retired person I've seen!

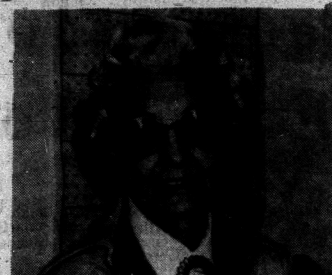
"Tell all the retired folks they are needed in Mission Service Corps," she requested of me. "I see plenty of places where they could help right here in El Paso," she added.

When she retired from teaching Spanish and journalism at Gulfport High School, she accepted an MSC application blank handed her by her pastor, James K. Ham of the Handsboro Church. Until then she knew virtually nothing about the Mission Service Corps, but she accepted the challenge and says she's grateful to him for making it. (Maybe others need a similar push from pastors or other fellow Christians.)

Her mission assignment is with the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, which distributes books and periodicals to 70 countries where Spanish is spoken. Her tasks have been varied, ranging from translating and editing books and stories to typing letters and contracts and preparing a subject file of pictures, photographs, and maps. She also edited and compiled Bible Crossword Puzzles, a book of puzzles of interest to readers from age 6 through senior adults. During the BSPH 75th anniversary celebration last fall she handled publicity for radio, television, and local newspapers.

Her car she placed at my disposal, as well as her house. She drove me to Juarez to bargain for onyx bookends. She drove me to a meeting of her Manuscript Club, an organization of El Paso writers, and to church and the airport on Sunday.

In the Spanish-speaking mission of First Baptist Church, El Paso, I visited the boys' Sunday School class she taught in English. She is pianist for the mission (a talented musician, she was star of a radio program at 17). She is coordinator of First Baptist Church's Cuban refugee work (see photo of the Cuban family on p. 5). In other churches through the years she has taught Sunday School, served as WMU director, and as church hostess.



Nola Dale was born at Daleville near Columbia, Miss. With her family she lived in Arkansas and Louisiana before moving as a teen-ager to Hattiesburg where she became a member of Main Street Baptist Church. After finishing high school in Hattiesburg she attended Draughon's Business School in Jackson and then studied at Jackson School of Law at night while working as stenographer for a law firm.

In Jackson she met Dykes Granberry from Hazlehurst, a draftsman with the state highway department. After she married Dykes, the two lived in Vicksburg, Atlanta, and St. Louis where he was employed in various government jobs. Then they moved to Cuba, where they lived on Fifth Avenue in Havana for 13 years. In Havana her husband was an engineer with the U.S. Government's Inter-American Geodetic Survey. Nola was society editor for The Havana Post, and also wrote copy for "Gracious Living," center section of the paper's Sunday magazine.

Following the revolution in Cuba, Dykes was transferred to St. Louis, June, 1959. Then in 1964, after the couple had been married 27 years, and he was 52, he died of a heart attack. So it was that after she was 50 Nola returned to Hattiesburg and earned bachelor's and master's degrees at Mississippi Southern University and then accepted a teaching position in Gulfport that lasted ten years.

What better way to crown her career than to be a part of the Mission Service Corps? She said, "I love my work and all the wonderful people with whom I work — the missionaries, and the others who are here from Mexico and other countries. . . ."

This summer, after she completes her third year in El Paso, she plans to go to Spain on a brief assignment, and while there to see other parts of Europe. She will go to Rio for a visit, and then decide if she will continue to live in El Paso, or will return to Mississippi. At Christmas, she visited her two sisters in Jackson, Mrs. J. C. Stennett and Mrs. Wilbur Howie, and her daughter Betty and family who live in Glendale. Her other daughter, Dixie, and her family live in Cincinnati.

Application blanks for Mission Service Corps and/or information about it may be obtained from Mission Service Corps, SBC, P. O. Box 7203, Atlanta, GA 30357.

Ready for House action . . .

Blood alcohol content bill passes committee

With new chairman John Hampton Stennis at the helm, the Mississippi House of Representatives Judiciary A Committee quickly has okayed a bill that would lower the level of alcohol in the blood stream for a person to be judged drunk.

It was HB 89 submitted by Jerry Horton, a Baptist from Ecru. The bill would reduce from .15 to .10 per cent the amount of alcohol in the blood stream for a person to be supposed intoxicated. The bill will go to the House floor for action, and it should find easy acceptance there. Only four committee members voted against the measure in the committee; and one of them was the former chairman, H. L. Meredith, who has been charged with keeping the bill bottled up in the com-

mittee for three years or more. He did not answer a letter from the Baptist Record asking if this were true.

Nothing is to be taken for granted, however, and it would be well to be in communication with representatives to express viewpoints. This is the year that this bill can pass, and there should be no lack of communication from Baptist people in Mississippi concerning the need for it. It should be pointed out again that Mississippi stands alone in the nation in allowing drunks on the highways. All other states are declaring drinkers intoxicated at .10 per cent or less now. Only Mississippi allows 50 per cent more alcohol content in the blood before intoxication is ruled.

The governor is said to support this bill. The Highway Safety Patrol is said

to support it. Surely we as Baptists in a Baptist state can do no less. We must not fail to let the Legislature know of our support.

Appreciation should also be expressed to others who have seen the need and have submitted other blood alcohol content bills. Among them are Dennis Dollar, a deacon and lay music director at First Baptist Church, Lyman; Pat Presley, a Baptist of Pascagoula; Archie Cates, a Methodist of Mantachie; and Malcolm Mabry, a Methodist of Dublin. Mabry is a senator, and his bill is SB 2072.

Mabry is in the Senate Judiciary Committee. That committee may consider his bill, or it may wait until the House has acted and let the Senate determine its course of action on the same bill. In which ever approach is

taken, communication is always appropriate. This is particularly true this year, for the Senate Judiciary Committee again is faced with making a decision on a bill that would allow the advertising of alcoholic beverages in Mississippi. This is SB 2029 by Howard Dyer of Greenville. Each year this bill comes up, and each year it is defeated. With the possibility of lowering the blood alcohol content in drinking drivers, there is certainly no need to approve liquor advertising, that would call for more drinking.

All committee members in the House and in the Senate are listed in this week's Baptist Record. They should be addressed at the House of Representatives or the Senate, Old Central High School, Jackson, MS 39205.

Faith seeking understanding . . .

What do we believe about the Holy Spirit?

By Frank Stagg

The Holy Spirit is the nearness of God, present to anyone at anytime or anywhere. The Holy Spirit is God Himself present and active. He is not a second or third God. He is the very God who was the father of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He is the very God who became incarnate in Jesus. Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as His own ministry continued beyond his death and resurrection. His going to the Father opened the way to greater works (John 14:12) and was in another sense His coming to His followers (John 14:20) through the gift of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16). Paul could write of the Spirit of God, and the Spirit of Christ, and Christ as one and the same (Rom. 8:9).

The Bible never speaks of the Holy Spirit as the "third person of the trinity." He is more than this. He is God Himself in His nearness to us. The attempt to formulate a "scientific" doctrine of "trinity" is not made in the Bible. Its writers were content to try to know and understand God; Gentile followers later on tried to explain and prove God. To call Christ the "second person of the trinity" is to go beyond the New Testament, forgetting that Christ said, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58). To term the Holy Spirit the "third person of the trinity" is to go beyond the New Testament,

forgetting that Jesus was "begotten of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 1:18, 20; Luke 1:35). Such procedure is unbiblical and involves one in unnecessary difficulties. Logic could make the Holy Spirit the father of Jesus, since Jesus was begotten of the Spirit. This poses no problem for biblical writers, who see the same God in the Father and in the Holy Spirit. In the New Testament, God is one (Mark 12:29; John 5:44; I Tim. 2:5); and he is the one incarnate in Jesus (John 1:14). Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as His own ministry continued beyond his death and resurrection. His going to the Father opened the way to greater works (John 14:12) and was in another sense His coming to His followers (John 14:20) through the gift of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16). Paul could write of the Spirit of God, and the Spirit of Christ, and Christ as one and the same (Rom. 8:9).

The Holy Spirit did not first come on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2). The Old Testament speaks of the Holy Spirit (Ps. 51:11; Isa. 63:10). According to Luke, the Spirit was upon Elizabeth (1:41), Zechariah (1:67), Simeon (2:25-27), and John the Baptist (1:15, 17). Luke in Acts tells about the giving of the Spirit at Pentecost, and it is he who in his Gospel gives the clearest evidence that the Holy Spirit was known under the old covenant as well as the new.

John 7:39 poses a problem in saying, "Not yet was the Spirit given because Jesus was not yet glorified." Both John and Luke show that after the death and resurrection of Jesus there was a new and supreme gift of the Holy Spirit. John stresses this. Luke does likewise in Acts 2, but in Luke 1-2 he also shows that the spirit already was upon God's people, before Pentecost. The difference since Pentecost is that made by the incarnate ministry of Christ. The continuing work of the Spirit is to build upon the things which

Christ did and taught (John 14:25f.) It is one continuing work, but the incarnate ministry adds the new dimension to the work of the Holy Spirit.

The Work of the Spirit

The Old Testament and Luke 1-2 show the Spirit's work to be related to prophecy or inspired preaching (cf. I Samuel 10-6). The Spirit's work is further seen in relation to judging, saving, comforting, empowering, and guiding. The Paraclete (Comforter) is the Spirit (John 14:16f.). He will teach all things and bring to remembrance the things which Jesus said, (14:26f.), guide into all truth (16:13), and "convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment" (16:8). Paraclete designates one called alongside, like an advocate or attorney who pleads one's case. "Comfort" is from Latin and means to make strong. The Spirit "comforts" by giving strength to endure and overcome. He imparts power for life and work (cf. Acts 1:3, 6, 8, 21f.).

The Fruit of the Spirit

Paul declares the fruit of the Spirit to be love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5:22). Unfortunately the "gift of tongues" has been played up as the supreme gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts makes much of the gift of tongues on the day of Pentecost, but the mark of this speech was that each could understand in his own language (2:6). This seems to have been a special gift for a particular situation, as the gospel was preached to visitors from many lands. This was not normative for the

Christian community. Later, at Corinth, much confusion came into the church as some claimed the gift of tongues and spoke an unintelligible utterance such as could leave the church open to the charge of madness (I Cor. 14:23).

The fruit of the Spirit is contrasted with the works of the flesh (flesh here means the whole man apart from God). The works of the flesh are man's own ugly sensual and anti-social attitudes and deeds, such as adultery, uncleanness, ungodliness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, factionalism, dissension, envy, drunkenness, and carousing (Gal. 5:19-21).

The fruit of the Spirit is that by which a Christian is recognized (cf. Matt. 7:16, 20); and it is by such fruit that the Spirit's presence in a life is recognized. "Spirituality" is not otherworldliness, but the whole life characterized by such fruit of the Spirit as indicated in Galatians 5:22.

Baptized With the Holy Spirit

Being "baptized with the Holy Spirit" is the same as receiving or having the Spirit come upon one in conversion or subsequent Christian life. In Acts, e.g., it is said that the Holy Spirit "fell upon" the household of Cornelius (10:44), that this was the gift of the Holy Spirit "poured out even upon the Gentiles" (10:45), and that this was the fulfillment of the promise of being "baptized with the Holy Spirit" (11:16). All Christians have been baptized with the Spirit. Any boast of a special claim on the Holy Spirit is a contradiction of the fruit of the Spirit.

Letters To The Editor

Reunion at Kaiserslautern

Editor:

During the month of April, 1981, Faith Baptist Church of Kaiserslautern, West Germany (originally First Baptist Church of Kaiserslautern) will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary. Also, reunions will be held in several locations in the states during the summer.

Through the years approximately 10,000 people have been involved in the ministry of this church. If any of our readers who are former members of Faith Baptist Church would be interested in the current history, would like to contribute to a compilation of past history through word and/or pictures, or would like to attend the anniversary celebration or one of the reunions, they are invited to correspond with:

Mrs. Carolyn Switzer,
P. O. Box 645
APO New York NY 09130
Thank you for your assistance.
Mrs. Carolyn Switzer

Help for Drinkers

Editor:

The alcohol bill Mississippi has thrust since the 1940's has not yet been filed into the 1981 Legislature. That would be for ENFORCED TREATMENT OF ALL ALCOHOLICS under a system where the police not only would be able to apprehend the drunks, but to escort them immediately at the time of drunkenness into the confinement of a local hospital treatment center open 24 hours a day, with trained medical personnel skilled in the handling of Alcohol Withdrawal and other serious medical problems an alcoholic has.

Medical treatment should be followed immediately and consistently by spiritual therapy as only a minister can bring. This should be accompanied by the psychology help offer to give the victim faith in his own ideals, so he can reach God and come to know his love, healing power and saving grace. This will take time, and

the patient, given his freedom to go back to work as soon as possible, may be returned to the drunk tank many times, even as he now returns to jail, but eventually he will catch on and respond to an outpatient clinic and education devices which must be provided for permanent or semi-permanent therapy.

As soon as he can be trusted, his driver's license should be returned, and he should be given far more safety to the public than now wherein a legally drunk man walks out of his jail cell after a few hours (as soon as a rich man can reach his lawyer or a poor family can arrange for yet another bank note to pay a cruel fine, or until some incorrigible unlucky drunks somehow manage to survive a jail sentence, which is unjust and inhuman punishment of a noncriminal sick man adding to his ruin.)

The Veterans Hospital should already be providing for their own sick under outreach programs, laws, and funding in existence many years. But it seems the VA is today wrongfully

excluding the sickest of alcoholics. This is similar to guidelines of Alcoholics Anonymous and Mental Health Centers — waiting for the alcoholic to come crawling to them under a volunteer program — but a man under the influence of alcohol is too sick to go in search of a doctor, and his family too frustrated by laws that place the entire burden of LEGAL ALCOHOL and its anguish and heartbreak upon them. Veterans have a RIGHT to VA Hospitalization, local VA Clinic care, and cure.

ENFORCED MEDICAL TREATMENT OF ALL ALCOHOLICS (no fines, no jail) can properly be financed by the government with increased taxation of those who SELL ALCOHOL, which is a brain poison, habit-forming, resulting in desperate illness, sold everywhere.

Name withheld by request

I can appreciate the fact that you have espoused a concept for the treatment of chronic drinkers, but I cannot accept the idea that every per-

son who gets drunk is sick. Regardless, I feel that one of the avenues to less drinking is to cut down or eliminate the source of supply. To me it is a tragedy that we have legalized something that we have to go to such lengths to control; because we have found that when it is out of control, it is dangerous. Therefore, if it is legal, there is no choice but to penalize those who abuse the controls that allow it to remain legal. — Editor

Washington (EP via RNS)—The relief agency of American evangelicals plans to coordinate a "disaster strike force" using student volunteers. Sparked by a request to World Relief, based in Wheaton, Ill., from the American Association of Evangelical Students (AAE), the "Open House" program will channel the energy of Christian students into short and long-term relief efforts.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES 1980-1984

Thursday, January 29, 1981

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Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Geneva (EP) — How many Lutherans in the world in 1981? About the same number as last year and for several years — approximately 70 million, though the trend has been slightly downward for the last decade. Nine million are in North America.

Medford, Ore. (EP) — "Many Christian churches and organizations are guilty of stealing about every week of the year," states Bob Turnbull, president of Omega Publications. "Thousands of denominational and non-denominational churches, plus para-church organizations, mimeograph or photocopy the words of a copyrighted song, and that is illegal. According to the new copyright law 94-553 enacted on October 19, 1976, it is illegal to mimeograph or photocopy the words of a copyrighted song or to make a slide or overhead transparency of a copyrighted song."

Dallas (EP) — W. A. Criswell has appealed for financial help from the 21,000 congregation members of his First Baptist Church in Dallas, the largest Southern Baptist church in the world. In two appeals to the membership, Criswell said the congregation must pay off a \$7.5 million parking garage or face selling one of the church's more than a dozen buildings. First Baptist carries a \$10.3 million debt on four of the buildings it owns in a six-block downtown area, church officials said.

Akron, Pa. (EP) — "Feeding the world next year will be like walking on a tightrope without a net," said an article in the November 4, 1980, Wall Street Journal. "A single misstep, such as another summer's bad weather in the U.S., would be enough to unbalance the act, plunging the whole world into a grain shortage and some poor nations to the brink of starvation." Edouard Sasuma, director-general of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), told an October U.N. conference, "We are in a situation of global alert."

Nashville — Plans to release a Southern Baptist discipleship training program, MasterLife, have been stepped up one year to 1981. The program requests following the program's introduction last summer by the Sunday School Board's church training department.

One of ten regional workshops has been scheduled for Feb. 23-27 at Shocco Springs Assembly, Talladega, Ala. The 26-hour workshop will begin on Monday evening and conclude Friday at noon.

MasterLife director, Avery Willis, tested the program and materials with 300 pastors, lay persons and furloughing missionaries during the 1980 church training leadership weeks at Ridgecrest and Glorieta Conference centers.

...could have a good memory. — Quintillian



Josefina and Nelson Vento, Cuban refugees, and their three children are being sponsored by First Baptist Church, El Paso, Texas. Vento is employed at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, Nola Granberry, Mississippian in the Mission Service Corps, is coordinator of the church's Cuban refugee work, and helped his family to get established. The Ventos were baptized in November at the Spanish mission of First Church, El Paso. (See story on page 4.)



Billy Townley, left, and Cesar Martinez are members of Nola Granberry's Sunday School class at the Spanish-speaking mission of First Baptist Church, El Paso. (Nola teaches an English-speaking class.) Billy and Cesar are demonstrating that \$50 is a tithe of \$500.

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Lambert, Adrian G. Lee, Jr., Thomas McCrary, Wesley A. McIngvale, Steven L. Melancon, James D. Price.

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PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND LANDS (19)

Donald R. Chambliss, Chairman; Jett Wilson, Vice Chairman; Donald S. Alford, Larry D. Allen, W. E. Andrews, III, Lunsford Casey, Eric Clark, Isaiah Fredericks, W. L. Grist, Clayton P. Henderson, Leslie D. King, Betty Jane Long, Thomas McCrary, Steven L. Melancon, James Nunnally, Don W. Richardson, Cecil Simmons, Wade O. Smith, Bruce Williamson.

PUBLIC UTILITIES (17)

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RULES (14)

Mr. Speaker, ex-officio; James C. Simpson, Chairman; Will Green Pointexter, Vice Chairman; Donald R. Chambliss, Robert G. Clark, Secretary; Robert E. Anderson, Stone D. Barefield, Charles W. Capps, Jr., Betty Jane Long, H. L. Meredith, Jr., Ted J. Millette, James A. Morrow, Emmett H. Owens, F. Edwin Perry.

STATE LIBRARY (5)

Hilman T. Frazier, Chairman; Charles V. Williams, Vice Chairman; Emmett H. Owens, Joe B. Rouse, Bruce Williamson.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (11)

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WAYS AND MEANS (33)

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Names In News

Alexine Gibson will retire from the Georgia Baptist Convention staff Feb. 28, after 21 years. For the past nine years, Miss Gibson has been administrative secretary to Searcy S. Garrison, who retired in December as executive secretary-treasurer of the Georgia Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

Miss Gibson formerly was Sunbeam Band director for Georgia Baptist Woman's Missionary Union. Her first church position was minister of education and secretary at her home church, First Church, McComb, Miss.

She was director of junior and intermediate work for Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department three years. For three years she was educational minister for junior and primary departments at First Church, Decatur, Ga.

She also has been minister of children's work at First Church, Columbia, Miss., and minister of children's work at First Church, West Monroe, La.

Miss Gibson attended Southwest Junior College and Mississippi Southern University. She lives at Paces Ferry Towers, the Georgia Baptist retirement home in northwest Atlanta.

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (BP) — Jesse and Dora Rutledge, parents of Foreign Mission Board photographer Don Rutledge, died within three hours of each other Jan. 13.

Mrs. Rutledge, 75, apparently suffered a heart attack at her home near Murfreesboro, and died in a local hospital. Rutledge, 78, died about three hours later in Nashville where he had been hospitalized for several days.

Don Rutledge, a former free-lance magazine photographer, joined the staff of the Foreign Mission Board in mid-1960 after having been with the Home Mission Board 12 years. He is credited with helping advance Southern Baptist photojournalism and has won numerous religious and secular awards for his work.

Rutledge, an ordained minister, helped conduct funeral services for his parents.



Joseph Nichols, right, has been licensed to the gospel ministry by Glendale Church, Washington County. Presenting the license is Clyde Pullen, left, pastor of Glendale Church. Nichols entered Mississippi College in January. He is available for supply preaching.

Randall Broome of Pascagoula received a Bachelor of Ministry degree in Biblical Studies, from Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla., during commencement exercises on the campus Jan. 16. He was the only Mississippian among the 25 who received degrees.

Willie Watts was ordained Jan. 4, in the Sunday night service at Calvary Church, Newton. J. B. Costilow, C. H. Melton, O. W. Marson, and Grayson McMullan assisted in the service. Watts has been called to New Zion Church in Morton. He's completed his work at Clarke College. Henry Adams is pastor at Calvary.

Joe Royalty, who has served for four years as teacher of Bible at Southern Hills Christian Academy, Jackson, is leaving this post to again devote full time to the field of evangelism. Royalty has held revival services and crusades in 40 of the 50 states of America and has preached in seven foreign countries. He is now available for revival meetings, Bible conferences, and January Bible studies. He may be reached at Rt. 1, Box 172 N., Jackson, Ms. 39212 (telephone 371-1095).

L. C. Easterling, 48, of Picayune and formerly of Laurel, died Jan. 21 at University Hospital in Jackson. He was an ordained minister.

He was the brother of the late Harvey Easterling, who served as minister at Calvary Baptist church in Laurel.

Survivors include his wife, Nina Worley Easterling, a son, John Mark Easterling, and a daughter, Lori Easterling, all of Picayune.

Also, he is survived by three brothers and two sisters.

The funeral service was held Jan. 23 at First Baptist Church of Picayune, with J. M. Foy and Bill Pruitt officiating.

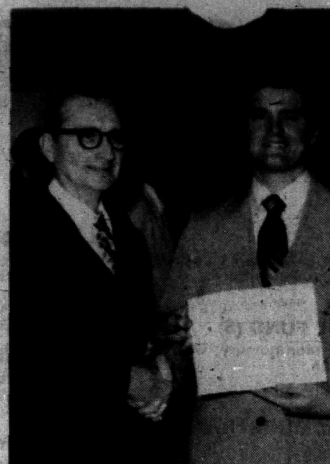
Sacred music artists R. L. and Beth Sigrest of Yazoo City were guest musicians at the Alaska Baptist Evangelism Conference in Fairbanks, Jan. 27-28. R. L. Sigrest also directed the mass choir before the concluding message by Jim Henry, president of Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference. The evening programs were presented live on statewide television.

BBI Alumni Will Meet In Hattiesburg

Baptist Bible Institute (Graceville, Fla.) alumni currently living in Mississippi will meet Feb. 3 during the evangelism conference in Hattiesburg.

The meeting will be held at Western Sizzling on Hardy Street in Hattiesburg at noon. Lunches will be \$4.97 each.

No reservations are necessary. "This meeting will be held in order to get an alumni association organized in Mississippi," states Joseph P. DuBose, Jr., BBI president, who will be at the meeting to help organize.



Wayne Van Horn, right, was ordained to the gospel ministry Jan. 18 at Hebron Baptist Church, Montgomery County, where he became pastor on Jan. 1. Congratulating him in the picture is Damar Price, deacon at Hebron.

Horn and his wife Terri are students at New Orleans Seminary, living on weekends in a trailer behind the church. The church welcomed them with a bonding.

He is from Newport News, Va., and surrendered to the ministry while Carroll-Montgomery director of missions Nolan Houston was his pastor at Menchville Baptist Church in Newport News.

Horn is a graduate of Christopher Newport College.

Bob Burklow and Tony Mordica were ordained Jan. 4 as deacons at Main Street Church, Hattiesburg.

"Son" a Texan told his offspring, "I just heard you asking that man what state he was from. Now, my boy, I want you to always remember this: If a man comes from Texas, he'll tell you, and if he isn't from Texas, there's no need to embarrass him."

Missionary News

Dennis and Janet Brotherton, missionaries to Korea, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Yeo Eul Do P. O. Box 165, Seoul 150, Korea). He is a native of West Plains, Mo. She was born in Greenville, Miss.

Steven and Minnie Hicks, representatives to Mexico, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Apartado Postal 267, Cd. Sate-lite, Edo de Mexico, Mexico). He is a native of Madisonville, La., and she is from Poplarville, Miss.

James and Dorothy Gilbert, missionaries to Ecuador, are in the States (address: c/o Mr. J. T. Gilbert, 719 Woodhill Rd., Jackson, Miss. 39206). He was born in White Bluff, Miss.

Jerald and Elaine Perrill, missionaries to Thailand, are in the States on furlough (address: 407 North 38th Ave., Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401).

Eugene and Ardis Cross, missionaries to the Philippines, have arrived in the States for medical furlough (address: 254 Montclair Ave., San Antonio, Texas 78209). He is a native of Hickory, Miss.

Blue Mountain Gets Grant From Sears

Unrestricted grants totaling more than \$10,039 were distributed recently to ten privately supported colleges and universities in Mississippi by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation, Mrs. Janet Quinn and Mr. James Byers, area representatives said.

Blue Mountain College is one of two colleges in northeast Mississippi receiving grants totaling \$1870.

Pine Grove Church, Yalobusha County, has called Jerry Brownlee as pastor. He has served the church as interim pastor for the past year and a half.

Jim Jordan has been called as pastor of the Dundee Church in Dundee. Jordan is a student at Mid-America Seminary in Memphis.

First Church, Union has called Terrell Suggs as pastor. He goes to Union from the East Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia.

Suggs and his wife Jan have two children, Monte and Andy. Suggs was graduated from Mobile College and New Orleans Seminary. He has served churches in Alabama and Mississippi.

SCRAPBOOK

A New Year, Veiled

There is a new year out there, veiled;
The year that's waiting for me is unknown,
But I am not afraid
Because I'm not alone.

God is with me each day and hour
From January on through December.
There may be some dark, cloudy days
But His love causes me to remember.

That He's among the shadows, too,
And I'm kept underneath His Wing
Where the sun is always shining
And in my heart I sing!

—Ruby Singley

Smooth runs the water where the
brook is deep. — William Shakespeare

Not all the waters of the seven seas
can sink a ship unless the water gets inside.

Keep your eyes wide open before
marriage, and half shut afterward.

See All The Beautiful Riders

Time is a wild, unyielding, galloping horse
with no remorse.

In youth I slouched with hope astride his back,
rein lazy-slack.

Then I grabbed the mane as Horse snorted, "Away!"
and day transcended day.

Hours were leapt. Sundown succeeded noon.
The future loomed soon.

Before a housewife schedule was tidily arranged,
my world changed.

At eighty words a minute I struggled for arrival
or simple survival.

Even as a mirror said I was passing fair,
I sat faded there.

My child shared my grandchild upon my knee —
glorious moment for me!

I jolted to retirement in prematurity,
eluded by security.

As I mourned mistakes and oh what might have been,
Time hauled me in —

and I was still wobbling, failing to hang on.
Lord, I'm the only one

who blew it. See your other children,
the beautiful riders, come in!

I looked up and He was smiling, so I stole
a sunset mirage, shimmering in simulated gold.

My riding trail is mine
before I'll slip from —

—Violet Tackett

Just For The Record...

Wesson Puppeteers, 22 strong, presented a Christian message in song and scripture at Crystal Springs Church, Walthall County, Jan. 18. The Puppeteers are a group of volunteer Christian youth ministering under direction of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Mandress, teachers at Co-Lin Junior College, and Wesson High School. Food and fellowship were on the agenda afterward in the church's new Family Life Center.

Jeremiah People will present a new musical-comedy creation, "Home Again — Portrait of a Family," on Saturday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m. at William Carey College, Hattiesburg. Jim Custer, road director of the group, will appear with Jeremiah People. He is a Texas native. Eternity, 18 singers and

instrumentalists, will also be featured guests during the concert. The concert is a presentation of Real Life Concert Ministries.

Byram Church, in keeping with denominational emphasis in reading the Bible through in 1980, completed reading the Bible through 84 times. Johnnie Martin read it more than anyone, eight times. The pastor, Henry J. Bennett, was next with four times. The church has already signed plan sheets to read the Bible 60 times in 1981. The Bible was read through by Byram Church members 62 times in 1979.

Beniah Church near Decatur reports that Witness Commitment Day, Jan. 11, resulted in "a great worship service." The GAs had brought over \$60 as their Lottie Moon offering, much of

this in pennies from their piggy banks. "This inspired us to go over our goal of \$1,000," said the pastor, Harry Sartin.

Then the people responded well to the challenge of Witness Commitment Day. The pastor added, "As if this were not enough, a young woman was saved during the invitation just as her name was being written down and her friend was praying for her at the altar. We ask all to pray that we may follow through with the many commitments made that day."

Former pastors took part in the "Victory Day" notebook service recently held at Sunflower Church, Sunflower, Miss. They were W. L. Marsh, John Evans, Gene Henderson, Art Slatten, and Billy Ray McClellan. Present pastor, Mike Throver, was also on program.



A BALDWIN MODEL 5 organ was donated to Nola Church, in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Vance Windom, pictured, who are now attending New Orleans Seminary. This organ was completely restored and augmented by a member of the Nola Church. It was dedicated in November.

Simply having children does not make mothers. — John A. Shedd

Clarksdale Pastor Dies

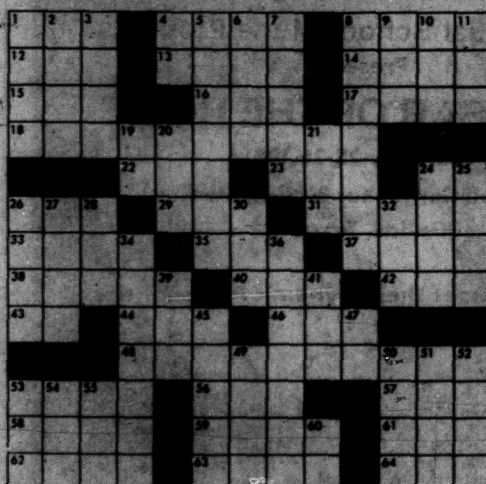
Don Russell Neil, 49, pastor of Cherry Street Baptist Church, Clarksdale, died of a heart attack Jan. 23 at the Northwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center. Services were held Sunday Jan. 25, at 1:30 p.m. at the Cherry Street Church with Reece Kyzar of Rolling Fork, First Church officiating.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., on March 10, 1931, he served in the U.S. Navy. He was a Baptist minister for 24 years. He leaves his wife, Mrs. JoAnn Neil; one son, James Franklin (Jeff) Neil of Clarksdale; one daughter, Jerie Elizabeth (Beth) Neil of Clarksdale; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Huff of Memphis.



Bible Puzzle

Bible Puzzle
Box 400
Albuquerque, N.M. 87103



63 Miss Ferber
64 Work unit

DOWN

- 1 Kind of sleep (Matt. 10:6)
- 2 Norse god
- 3 Sowed in the wheat (Matt. 13:25; sing.)
- 4 Sunday School: abbr.
- 5 "and there shall be" (John 10)
- 6 "the middle" (Eph. 2:14)
- 7 "take my journey into" (Rom. 15)
- 8 "because ye have" (John 16)
- 9 Kimono wash
- 10 Ronald, sometimes
- 11 Letter
- 12 Wicked one (Gen. 38:7)
- 13 Lamp fuel (Matt. 25:4)
- 21 Charge
- 24 "Go — to thy friends" (Mark 5)
- 25 "— for us" (1 Thess. 5:25)
- 26 "But — to remembrance" (Heb. 10)
- 27 Mine entrance
- 28 Support
- 30 Ice cream serving
- 32 Mistress: abbr.
- 34 "dumb before his" (Acts 8)
- 36 "as — count slackness" (2 Pet. 3)
- 39 Toy
- 41 Sailor
- 42 Hospital employee
- 47 Chinese weight
- 49 Highway
- 50 Valley
- 51 Tower (Gen. 35:21)
- 52 Resounded
- 53 Baste
- 54 Ascot, for one
- 55 Constellation
- 60 Egyptian god

ACROSS

- 1 He went out of Sodom (Luke 17:29)
- 4 Miss Piggy's mother: pl.
- 8 He who judges (1 Cor. 4:4)
- 12 Turkish chamber
- 13 Judgment, of a kind
- 14 Musical instrument
- 15 Preacher's forte: abbr.
- 16 Guido's note
- 17 "the clusters of the" (Rev. 16)
- 18 "Was there the" (Acts 7)
- 22 "— of the" (Acts 7)
- 23 Man's nickname
- 24 Horsepower: abbr.
- 26 State: abbr.
- 29 Academic degree: abbr.
- 31 "money of the sons of" (Acts 7)
- 33 Summer refreshers
- 35 Prefix for agree or allow
- 37 Feminine name
- 38 God (1 John 1:5)
- 40 "I see a seething" (Jer. 1)
- 42 Coal fish: Eng.
- 43 Military man: abbr.
- 44 Long time
- 46 O.T. book: abbr.
- 48 "— of water of life" (Rev. 22)
- 53 "and the" — of your (Acts 7)
- 56 N.T. book: abbr.
- 57 Oklahoma town
- 58 The Emerald Isle
- 59 Early Irish tenant
- 61 Swedish district
- 62 "The waters — the stones" (Job 14)

CRYPTOVERSE

PCIHSC UCQJ HGR WHO QNBMU RBX
JDSBXVD NDMUBQBND R HGV OHMG
VCLCMJ

Today's Cryptoverse clue: V equals D

(Answers on Page 7)

What Have These In Common?

1. The butler, the baker, Pharaoh.
2. Zebulun, Gad, Naphtali.
3. Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites
4. Hosea, Micah, Amos
5. Cubit, palm, span
6. Kadesh, Shechem, Hebron
7. Joel, Deborah, Barak
8. Jehoshaphat, Jhohoiakim, Azariah
9. Purim, Passover, Tabernacles
10. Gold, frankincense, myrrh
11. Cana, Nazareth, Bethlehem
12. Hezekiah, Siloam, Bethesda
13. Altar of incense, table of shewbread, golden candlestick.
14. Court of the Gentiles, Court of the Women, Holy of Holies
15. Light of the World, Prince of Peace, Good Shepherd
16. David, Obed, Jesus
17. Hagar, Sarah, Keturah
18. Michal, Abigail, Bathsheba

—Ruby Rose Hamilton
Gulport

Answers

1. Joseph interpreted their dreams
2. Sons of Jacob
3. Enemies of the Hebrews in the promised land
4. 8th century prophets
5. Hebrew measures of lengths
6. Biblical cities of refuge
7. They caused the death of Sisera
8. Kings of Judah
9. Jewish festivals
10. Gifts of the wise men
11. Cities of Galilee
12. Famous pools in Jerusalem
13. Furnishings of the tabernacle
14. Divisions of Herod's temple
15. Names applied to Jesus
16. All born in Bethlehem
17. Wives of Abraham
18. Wives of David

Youth Sunday School Leadership Conclave

February 6

First Baptist Church, Biloxi

7-10 P.M.

Leaders



Jim Blakeney
FBC, Biloxi



Don Witzel
Calvary, Jackson



Larry Salter
S. S. Dept., Jackson



Paul Lee
Calvary, Tupelo

Project

Bible teaching lab for youth leaders.

Description

Three hour workshop designed to provide youth Sunday School teachers Bible teaching skills in a laboratory setting enabling them to communicate more effectively with youth.

Target audience

All youth Sunday School leaders, youth ministers, associational youth Sunday School leaders, and church staff workers.

Sponsored by
Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department
Bryant M. Cummings, Director

What If All Baptists Were to Ask For Peace?

By Duke R. McCall, President
Baptist World Alliance

Baptists have always emphasized the importance of the individual. We have insisted that each individual must determine his own relationship to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is no redeeming faith by proxy. There is no possibility that others, by acts of sacrifice, may substitute for our personal commitment to Christ. We have insisted upon the priesthood of each believer that he or she may approach God directly without the intervention of any third party. "So each of us shall give an account of himself to God." Romans 14:12

BWA Day is
February 1.

The Baptist, however, who rejoices in his individual freedom and responsibility to the point that he ignores the collective principle in the gospel is all the poorer. The God who created the heavens and the earth set the stars in families and called us into fellowship not only with himself, but also with each other. Each Christian is called to be a part of the family of God, a part of the body of Christ which is the church.

Nowhere is the possibility and power of the principle of relationships between Christians expressed more clearly than in Jesus' promise "that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything, that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven."

What if all of the Baptists of the world were to agree to ask for peace? What if all of the Baptists of the world were to agree to ask for justice? What if all of the Baptists of the world were to agree to ask for freedom? What if all of the Baptists of the world were to agree to ask for provisions for the hungry?

The Baptist World Alliance is the vehicle through which Baptists around the world have agreed to be concerned about such things. Our common convictions as Baptists bind us together and call us to be joined in prayer. Not two or three of us, but 30 million of us should agree to pray for one another and with one another for our world. Baptists in 140,000 different churches can be linked through the Baptist World Alliance in a fellowship of prayer to the end that our unity will become the channel of God's power to change the world. Then we may rejoice, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and forever." Revelation 11:15.

NFD Says Revlon Pays For Most Sex On TV

TUPELO, Miss. (EP) — Revlon is the leading sponsor of sex on television while Volkswagen is the leading sponsor of profanity, according to the National Federation for Decency. The NFD based its findings on a 12-week monitoring program of prime-time television during the fall of 1980. It was the fourth consecutive year for the group's monitoring program. The monitoring was done by approximately 800 trained volunteers in sixteen states.

The NFD said that the networks increased the number of suggested intercourse, sexually suggestive comments and skin scenes (undue and unnecessary emphasis on the human anatomy) by a total of 27.3 percent over a comparable period during 1979. Profanity also showed a marked increase, up 36.59 percent.

The number of people shown drinking alcoholic beverages was up 53.49 percent. Alcohol continued to be the top beverage shown being consumed in programming content. A total of

7179 persons were shown drinking alcohol. Coffee was the second most used beverage with 774 people depicted.

Top sponsors using sex in commercials were Consolidated Foods (Hanes, L'eggs), Ford Motor Company, Avon Products (cosmetics), Gulf & Western Industries (No Nonsense hosiery), and Revlon (cosmetics). Other top sponsors of sex cited by the NFD were Noxell (Noxzema, Cover Girl), Beecham (Aqua-Fresh toothpaste, Cling Free), Gulf & Western, American Motors, Carnation (condensed milk, Come And Get It dogfood), Heublein (wines, Kentucky Fried Chicken), Clorox (cleaning products, Liquid-plumber), Pfizer (Visine, Desitin), and Warner-Lambert (Listerine, Roloids).

Least sponsors of sex included Timex, Hallmark, Philip Morris (7-Up, Miller beer), Nissan Motors (Datsun), I T & T (Wonder brand, Sheraton hotels), Zenith, RCA, Hershey, Eastman Kodak, General Mills (Betty Crocker, Kenner toys).

Biloxi, First To Hold Conference For Singles

First Church, Biloxi, will host a Singles Conference for Spiritual Growth on February 6 and 7 in its Activities Building.

Jim Towns, associate professor of communications at Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, will be the guest leader. He is the author of numerous books, including *Solo Flight, One Is Not a Lonely Number, and Faith Stronger Than Death*.

Topics for the seminar will include: "Single Adults: Persons of Value-Dignity-Worth"; "Saviourship-Lordship: Knowing, Obeying, Abiding in Jesus"; "Singles in the Local Church: Worshiping and Serving"; and "Single Adults Meet Life Head-On: Questions and Answers."

Mrs. A. J. Merritt, Missionary's Mother, Dies At 82

Services were held Dec. 30 at Petal-Harvey Church, Petal, for Mrs. A. J. (LaBirdie) Leggett Merritt, Sr., 82, a long-time resident of Forrest County.

Mrs. Merritt was the widow of Angus J. Merritt, Sr., and mother of missionary, Dewey Merritt.

She was an active member of Petal-Harvey Church, Petal, an active member of the T.E.L. Sunday School class and the Bible Study group of the Woman's Missionary Union.

At 17, Mrs. Merritt taught the primer through 8th grade school at Sugar Pond, Ms. Then after finishing business school at Hattiesburg, she started keeping books.

World War II she set up books for Columbia Trading School in Columbia, and retired as head bookkeeper of Belk-Whitney Department Store in Hattiesburg.

Other survivors include three sons, A. J. Merritt, Jr. of Petal; James E. Merritt, Jackson; Wm. Carl Merritt, Amarillo, TX.; two daughters, Mrs. Ray Lambert, Hattiesburg; and Mrs. Wm. Pratt, II of Minerals Wells, TX.; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two sisters; three brothers; and a number of nieces and nephews, including Mrs. Cora Joyce Davis, missionary in Ghana, and John Merritt, missionary in Germany.

Cecil Maples, Pastor, Dies

Cecil R. Maples, 54, pastor of Forest Avenue Baptist Church, Jackson, Ala., since 1973, and a former pastor in Mississippi, died Jan. 1, 1981, at a Mobile hospital, following a heart attack.

Funeral services were Jan. 3 from the chapel of Radney Funeral Home. A memorial service was held Sunday, Jan. 4, at Forest Avenue Baptist Church with Robert Powell officiating and deacons assisting.

Maples was born in Mobile Dec. 6, 1926. He was ordained to the ministry by Van Winkle Church, Jackson, Miss., Jan. 3, 1951, while he was a student at Mississippi College. He received a B.A. degree from MC in 1954 and a B.D. degree (with Greek and Hebrew) from New Orleans Seminary in 1959.

While a student he was pastor of the following Mississippi churches: Northside and Wayside, Vicksburg, Sturgis and Morgan Chapel, (Okla. beha); Magnolia Park, Jackson; Crooked Creek (Lawrence); and Concord, McCall Creek. Other pastorates were at Leesburg, Motion and Airport Boulevard, Mobile.

Survivors include his wife, the former Marjorie Marie Loper (1210 Oak Ave., Jackson, Ala. 39245), who teaches sixth grade; a son, C. Allen Maples, teacher of choral music at Azalea Middle School, Mobile; a daughter, Melanie Marie, a student at Mobile College; two brothers; and three sisters.

Maples was licensed to preach in 1949 and had been in the active pastorate for 31 years. A fund has been started at Mobile College, Mobile, Ala., in his memory.

During Maples' college days at MC, his wife was on the staff of the Baptist Record.



Tom Sumrall Day In Laurel

Magnolia Street Church, Laurel, honored a former pastor, Tom Sumrall, recently by observance of Tom Sumrall Day. Sumrall is currently a missionary to Brazil, along with his wife, Jane, and their 14-year-old son, Eric.

Preaching before a large crowd of church members, visitors, and former church members, Sumrall shared some of his vision regarding Brazil. The present pastor of Magnolia Street Church, David Sellers, left, presented a check as a love offering from the congregation to the Sumralls, right. Dinner-on-the-grounds was served. The Sumralls will return to Brazil shortly.

Mississippi College Sets Spiritual Program

"Ordinary People" will be the theme for Spiritual Enrichment Week scheduled at Mississippi College Feb. 2-5. A team of personalities representing four states will come to the campus to lead in the activities.

Tracey Peacock of Baton Rouge, La., and Clark Stewart of Newell, La., will be the featured speakers.



VandLandingham and Kelly chairpersons for the week being sponsored by the Baptist Student Union, said that chapel services will be held each morning in Nelson Hall. A concert featuring composer-singer Wayne Watson of Baton Rouge, La., is set for Monday, Feb. 2, at 6:15 p.m. in



Evans Nelson Hall. Starks

Team members will also lead out in dormitory discussion groups scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in the various residence halls on campus and will visit selected classes for discussion groups.

Composing the Spiritual Enrichment Week team will be Altus Newell, a Mississippi College alumnus now pastor of the St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.; David VandLandingham of Jackson, a medical doctor and also a Mississippi College graduate; Mrs. Earl Kelly of Jackson, housewife and public relations specialist; Tommy Starks, professor at New Orleans Seminary; Tony Evans, chaplain for the Dallas Cowboys Football Team and instructor in pastoral ministries at Dallas Theological Seminary; and Watson.

Church Groups Plan Formal Step Toward Joint Ministry

Leaders of the 18-year-old Consultation on Church Union hope to have the 10 participating denominations take some formal step toward union of 22 million American church people during 1984-86.

They are not prepared to identify the exact nature of the step. The denominations currently are studying COCU agreements on the kind of a ministry a united church would have. A commission has begun working on the form of the church.

All of the churches already have accepted "mutual recognition of members" and each has a mid-1980s legislative meeting at which major actions can be taken.

COCU a decade ago achieved what appeared to be general acceptance of basic agreements on faith, worship, and sacraments. A 1970 plan of union, however, hung up on ministry and structure. Just last January COCU delegates agreed on ministry and sent the agreement out to the churches for study and response by December 1981.

The COCU churches are the African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Episcopal Church, National Council of Community Churches, Presbyterian Church U.S., United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church, and United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

State Churches Give To Lottie

Wayne County Association gave through the 1980 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering \$20,349, an increase of \$1,911 over the 1979 offering. The Executive Board of the association has approved 1981 goals of \$10,000 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, \$3,500 for the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering, and \$23,000 for the Lottie Moon Offering.

"We feel that setting these goals for the association will build momentum in the churches in promoting the offerings," said Mrs. William Bayne, associational WMU director and WMU director for District 3.

Aaron Waits is the associational Brotherhood director, Grady Crowell is director of missions; and Robert Perry is moderator.

New Salem Church, Caledonia, Lowndes County, went over its \$5,000.00 goal for Lottie Moon gifts, with a total of \$5,454.70. This is the second year the church has given over \$5,000 to the offering. Pastor is Arnold Davis.

Calvary Church of Oak Grove in Lamar Association exceeded the Lottie Moon Offering goal of \$5,000, with a total of \$5,600.62. Each year for the past six years Calvary has increased its goal and met and exceeded each goal. Mrs. Lucy Clinton is WMU director and Douglas E. Benedict is pastor.

Port Gibson Church has gone over its Lottie Moon offering goal for the third year. The offering total of \$1,805.34. Clayton Babin is the pastor.

First Church, State Line, set a goal of \$1,300.00 for the 1980 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. They received a total of \$1,632.00. Roy Garrison is pastor.

Indian Springs Church, Hattiesburg, Perry Association, surpassed its Lottie Moon goal of \$1,500. Last year was the first time in several years the church set a goal for the offering. Both years this rural church surpassed its goal. The total offering this year was \$2,090.67. James W. Shoemaker is pastor.

Abner McCall Resigns; Reynolds Is Successor

WACO, Texas (BP) — Abner V. McCall, 65, has announced his resignation as president of Baylor University effective May 31, 1981, and has been elected chancellor effective June 1, 1981.

Trustees, in their January meeting, also named Herbert H. Reynolds, 50, executive vice president, as McCall's successor at the head of the nation's largest Southern Baptist-affiliated school.

McCall, who has headed Baylor since 1961, will have no significant administrative responsibilities as chancellor, but will take on assignments from the board of trustees and will consult with and advise the board and the president on matters of general policy.

Also, trustees said McCall will "advise and assist the president on external affairs and in maintaining and enhancing denominational, legislative, alumni and community relationships."

McCall is the second person in recent history to be elected chancellor. The late W. R. White resigned the presidency in 1961 and was chancellor until 1963, when he was named president emeritus.

W. Dewey Presley, chairman of the Baylor board of trustees, said McCall previously informed the board of his desire to be relieved of the chief executive officer's responsibilities after his 65th birthday.

McCall, who was first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1979, was born in Perrin, Texas, and reared in the Fort Worth Masonic Home and Orphanage, where he, his brothers and sister were placed after the death of their father in 1918.

He taught at Baylor from 1938 to 1942, when he joined the Federal

Bureau of Investigation. He returned to Baylor in 1946, and remained until 1956 when he became an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Texas. He returned to Baylor in 1959 as executive vice president and assumed the presidency in 1961.

Reynolds, a native of Frankston, Texas, retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1968 after a 20-year career which included service in the Far East, work at the Biomedical Research Laboratory at Alamogordo, N.M., and the task of establishing the Air Force Human Resources Research Laboratory in San Antonio.

He earned a bachelor of science and a regular Air Force Commission from Trinity University, and masters and doctors degrees in psychology from Baylor University.

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"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit" (Col. 2:8).

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PRINCIPAL — First Baptist School of Little Rock, Arkansas is seeking a certified Elementary Principal for new school (K-6) to open Sept. 1981. Contact: Richard Browning, Business Manager, First Baptist Church, 62 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72212. Telephone (501) 227-0010.

Bible Book Series

Freedom And
The Weaker Christian

By Gordon H. Sansing
Pastor, First, Pontotoc
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

"No man is an island entire of itself," wrote John Donne, and this is certainly true in the arena of Christian relationships and responsibility.

Food offered to idols was the subject of the next question raised by the Corinthians. To partake of this meat offered to idols posed no problem for some of the community since an idol was nothing to them. As Paul answers their questions we see a larger Christian principle surface which speaks to our lives. That principle has to do with unselfish love for others as one lives out the faith in responsible freedom.

1. The contrast between knowledge and love (8:1-3)

There were many pagan temples in Corinth where animal sacrifices were offered to the gods. Only a limited portion of the meat was used in the temple and the rest was sold to local butcher shops. The problem which arose in the church related to eating this meat.

The reason for the problem was that many had come to Christ out of these pagan religions. Their background was that the one who ate the meat offered to an idol was considered to be a worshiper of that god. It was difficult for some of these new Christians to divest themselves of their past.

As some of these converts grew in Christ, they came to the point where they no longer had a problem with this. They could eat meat offered to idols because they knew the idol could do nothing and had no effect on the meat whatsoever. But weaker Christians had not yet attained this maturity and freedom in Christ.

These more mature Christians were apparently taunting and tempting their weaker brothers about this matter. As they did, they revealed a real immaturity in the faith at this point.

Paul writes, "We all have knowledge. . . . We know that an idol is nothing. Even though all had that knowledge, not all had grown to that emotional position. When some of the Christians began to pride themselves in their knowledge and taunt the weaker brothers, they were not building them up. Instead, they were stumbling blocks. The principle which should have controlled their action was that of love. Love edifies and builds bridges, not walls.

The knowledge that "puts up" and

makes one arrogant is not real knowledge at all. The starting place of true knowledge is grounded in love and is not based on pride, but humility. These thought they knew a great deal more than they really did.

The most important thing was to be known by God. That is the greatest knowledge and comes through faith because God has known man through love. Paul affirmed that love for God was evidence that one belonged to Him.

2. The content of true knowledge (8:4-6)

Paul took his stand by stating what was probably an early Christian confession in verse 6. An idol really had no existence; it was nothing. There is but one God. Now concerning the eating of things offered to idols, Paul pointed out that since the above statement is true, these idols had no power to make meats offered to them good or bad.

This meant that the mature Christian could buy and eat this meat with no defilement. Christ had made the superstitions meaningless. However, Paul goes on to say that the concerned Christian had other things to consider in this matter.

3. The Christian's attitude toward the weak (8:7-13)

Not all who were converted from paganism to Christ had this knowledge. Not all had grown to the place in their faith-pilgrimage of understanding that an idol was nothing. These Christians had not grown strong enough in Christian knowledge to eat meat offered to idols without experiencing guilt. When they did eat this meat, they violated their consciences. The danger lay in the door this violation opened. If they went against their inner belief at this point, it could be the beginning of tearing down their spiritual codes.

Paul reminded those who could eat this meat without it bothering them that they should not flaunt this. After all, "Food will not commend us to God," Paul said.

For these stronger Christians to flaunt their freedom in Christ was dangerous. Paul advised them not to permit their liberty to become a stumbling block to the immature. The example of a stronger Christian might influence a weaker brother to eat meat offered to an idol. For the stronger person this was no problem, but for the weaker it was a stumbling block for

they acted contrary to their conviction. This could result in spiritual loss within this Christian's life.

Christ died for all, the strong and the weak. If Christ gave His life to redeem both, the stronger ought to forego his rights in order to help his weaker brother. To sin by causing a weaker brother to stumble is to sin against Christ.

The guiding principle here is love for one's brother in Christ. The Christian is to live responsibly in the freedom Christ has given. "Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again. . . . It was love and concern for his brothers in Christ

SBC Television Network Programming Pondered

By Toby Druin

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — If Jimmy Allen's proposal for a Southern Baptist television network becomes a reality, what would a turn of the dial bring into your home?

Allen, president of the Radio-Television Commission which is proposing a 100-station low powered television network, said the "flagship" of the network, as he envisions it, would be a "Donahue type" discussion of issues and Allen said, "I probably will be the host on a daily basis, because you have to have something out there that the people identify with — that says, 'that is us'."

The program, he said, might include an examination of mission areas, featuring missionaries who serve there and "dealing with the real issues facing people of that country and our missionary enterprise there."

He would have co-hosts such as the missionaries or outstanding leaders and others.

Allen mused over what a day's programming might include. In addition to the "flagship" show, the day likely would include children's programs for early afternoon. The show will have "God talk," Allen said, but will not be just for those with a biblical vocabulary.

"We would hope the (Baptist) Sunday School Board would come up with some children's programming too," he said. The network idea is a joint

venture of the commission and the BSSB. The board will be given an hour a day on the network for its financial backing.

"We will have magazine programs — the news type of thing," Allen said, but added the network probably would subscribe to a cable network for its news production.

The network also might create a new kind of religious news service. "We already have good journalism service," he said. "We might as well tap that into electronic service."

Other ideas for the network include a sports program Allen is discussing with evangelist Bill Glass; concert series featuring artists in 30-minute and hour-long productions; full-length dramas by Christian groups and even with situation comedies.

Though Allen did not mention it in discussing the network format, one prospect also would be the telecasting of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, enabling millions of church members to participate visually. Two years ago in Houston when Allen was president of the SBC, a Bold Mission Thrust rally in the Astrodome was telecast via closed circuit to 10 cities across the nation.

"Teen-agers," observed a father, "are also parent-agers." — Food Marketing in New England.



Foreign Board Hires Two; Upgrades Another Staffer

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A new candidate consultant and associate area director were named and the position of coordinator of auxiliary personnel upgraded in December as the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board moved nearer completion of its reorganization plan.

Norman N. Burnes III, Southern Baptist missionary recently in Greece, will be candidate consultant for the Atlantic states, and Joe W. Bruce, missionary to Honduras, will be associate to the director for middle America and the Caribbean. Wendy Purcell, who came to the board in August as coordinator of auxiliary personnel, is now responsible for screening journeyman candidates and helping with missionary selection.

Since Jan. 1, Burnes, 43, has been working with missionary candidates in the Atlantic region, including Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, from their initial contact with the board until they are appointed.

Bruce, 36, will be stationed in Guatemala City, Guatemala, to serve as a liaison between missionaries in middle America and the Foreign Mission Board under Donald R. Kammerdiener, director for middle America and the Caribbean. He is on furlough in Nashville, Tenn., and will begin his new duties in June.

Purcell handles selection duties for journeyman, two-year overseas volunteers. She also participates in missionary selection, working especially with women candidates.

Devotional

Have Faith In God

By Dan Hall, Director, Department of Church Music
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

During the early days of the great depression, B. B. McKinney was in Philadelphia, PA, leading the music for an evangelistic crusade. While walking the streets for exercise one day, he observed the fear and concern in the eyes of the



Hall

people. They were worried about unemployment and the rising cost of living. They were concerned about foreign affairs and a feeling the country could be threatened due to the weakened economic foundations.

Dr. McKinney returned to his hotel room and wrote the text to the hymn, "Have Faith In God."

1. Have faith in God when your pathway is lonely;
He sees and knows all the way you have trod;
Never alone are the least of his children!
Have faith in God, have faith in God.

2. Have faith in God when your prayers are unanswered,
Your earnest plea he will never forget!
Wait on the Lord, trust his Word and be patient,
Have faith in God, he'll answer yet.

3. Have faith in God in your pain and your sorrow,
His heart is touched with your grief and despair;
Cast all your cares and your burdens upon him,
And leave them there, oh, leave them there.

4. Have faith in God tho' all else fail about you;
Have faith in God, he provides for his own;
He cannot fail tho' all kingdoms shall perish,
He rules, he reigns upon his throne.

Refrain:

Have faith in God, he's on his throne!
Have faith in God, he watches o'er his own;
He cannot fail he must prevail;
Have faith in God, have faith in God.

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If you are feeling what Dr. McKinney saw in the people in the 1930's just apply the faith principle which he wrote about in this great hymn.

Uniform Lesson

Trust in God's Victory

By Tom F. Barton
First, Booneville
Matthew 13:24-30

The story of the tares and the wheat is a parable; to understand that small beginnings in God's work are not to be despised or to cause discouragement and to trust in God's power and oversight for the ultimate victory of His kingdom.

I. THE GOOD WHEAT AND THE TARES (24-30)

V-24 Parable — The Greek word means to compare together. It is a story to illustrate a truth. Or, it is an earthly story to illustrate a heavenly truth. The parable was an ancient method of teaching. Aesop used the parable to teach. In Christ's time it was a common method of teaching. The prophets used it. Nathan the prophet who came to King David and told him the story of the rich man who stole the poor man's lamb, was speaking to David in a parable. His parable illustrated the sin of David who took another's wife and then had her husband killed. One might say that the parable was sort of a forerunner of our modern day audio-visual aids in teaching. The parables of Jesus as compared to those of other teachers are clear, pure, chaste, instructive and simple.

Kingdom — The effect that the gospel has when it is preached.

The Good Seed — The truths preached by Jesus and his apostles.

The Field — The field represents the world in which the gospel is preached.

V-25 Slew, His Enemy Came — The enemy came at night and scattered bad seed on the new ploughed ground. Satan sows false teaching at night. Night is a symbol of spiritual darkness. While people are opening their hearts to the truth, the false teacher introduces false doctrine.

Sowed Tares — The tare is a wild form of wheat; a useless weed. It appears real but it isn't. Birds that eat the grain from the wild wheat become dizzy. People who by mistake have made flour and bread from it have become sick and dizzy when they ate it. The teachings that false preachers and teachers give out make the unsuspecting believer spiritually sick and dizzy. Barnes says that tares represent the hypocrites in the church. They resemble Christians and they cannot be separated from the church and true Christian until the day of judgement.

purpose and secrets of every man's heart. The devil is the one who sows the tares.

Went His Way — Satan sowed his doctrine in the human heart. In the heart it takes deep root. Saving grace needs constant attention and care. Error, sin and hypocrisy are natural to the heart, and when left alone grow rapidly.

V-26 Then Appeared the Tares — They grew with the wheat and were not noticed until the wheat began to ripen. When the gospel produces the blade, then the tares spring up also.

V-27-29 — They looked like wheat and it would be difficult to separate them. If they gathered the tares they would pull up some of the good wheat and injure the crop. By waiting until harvest they could easily gather the tares and the good wheat without hurting the crop.

V-30 Let Both Grow Together — They would not spoil the true wheat. As the wheat and the tares grew side by side until the harvest, the tares were picked with the wheat and then they could be destroyed. The lesson here is that

1. Hypocrites and deceived persons will always be in the church.

2. They are in the church because it is the work of the enemy. Hypocrisy is a form of sin. They are of the world and not of Christ.

3. It is almost impossible to remove them. It is difficult to remove them mainly because we do not know who they are.

4. Attempts to remove them would injure real Christianity, causing discord and hard feeling among Christians. It is a strange fact that Christians will often protect the hypocrites.

5. The church should keep herself pure, and if it cannot prove who the hypocrites are, the church should leave that to Christ.

6. At the Day of Judgement Christ will remove them once and for all.

II. THE GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED (31-32)

V-31 The Kingdom of Heaven — The Kingdom begins as a small thing in the heart. In the church there were few believers. They were unknown, unlearned, and unhonored. But in a while their faith had spread through the world.

Grain of Mustard Seed — Our mustard is a small plant. The Hebrew Mustard is a small seed and grows into a

large plant. Often it takes several years for it to bear fruit and become a tree. Thompson states, "I have seen the plant as large as the horse and his rider. It is a tree that grows all year long. I have seen some of them so large that a man could climb them. The size of the mustard tree does prove that Jesus' parable is true."

Herschel Ford says that the parable means to portray the growth of the church from a tiny beginning to its millions of members today. The birds lodging in the branches tell us how poor, weary, sin-sick human beings can come and find security and peace in Christianity.

Once a boy heard his mother say that she had dedicated him to the service of God as a missionary. The boy's name was Samuel J. Mills. When he became a Christian, he began to think about missions. He got some of his student friends together and they held a prayer meeting in a grove. A thunderstorm came up and they took shelter in a haystack in a nearby farmer's field. During the storm they talked about missions. The age in which they were living was not a missionary age. Samuel told the group that they should send the gospel to the dark and heathen land of Asia, and that they could do it if they wanted to. They made it a matter of prayer. Out of that haystack prayer meeting they founded a missionary organization. It later became the American Board of Foreign Missions.

III. PARABLE OF THE LEAVEN

Leaven — This is not yeast but sour dough that will cause fermentation. It will grow secretly, silently, and steadily. It will pervade all the soul and the heart. All the kingdoms of the world will be brought under its influence.

Three Measures — About a peck and a half. How does leaven work? An officer was overwhelmed by the fear of death during a battle. He was impressed with the steadiness of several Christian soldiers under fire. Particularly he saw a corporal, who after several standard-bearers had been shot down, seized the flagstaff, and as he bore it to immediate death, calmly said to a comrade, "If I fall, tell my dear wife that I die with a good hope in Christ, and that I am glad to give my life for the country."

"I cannot forget that," said the officer, and "I want to become a Christian."

Life and Work Lesson

Keeping Life In Perspective

By James L. Heflin, Pastor
FBC, Greenville

BASIC PASSAGE: Luke 12:13-21
FOCAL PASSAGES: Luke 12:13-15, 22-31

The increasingly popular automatic single lens reflex camera has made better-than-average photography possible for many of us amateurs. Have you had the disappointment of hurrying down to the photo shop to pick up your latest color pictures, only to discover that about half of them were blurred? That experience taught you a basic lesson about photography. As the slip of paper with your pictures, or slides, said: To get a good picture, you must focus the camera properly before shooting.

This passage of Scripture teaches us a basic lesson about life. You must have a good focus, or perspective, in life to have meaning in life. An unbalanced emphasis on materialism gives an improper perspective on life.

I. REMEMBER THE BASIC VALUES (12:13-15)

One of the men in the crowd gathered around Jesus in "a certain village" interrupted the Master by asking him about a personal problem. Evidently the man's father had died and left a great inheritance for him and his older brother. He addressed Jesus in complimentary terms. "Teacher" means "Rabbi" or "Master." Jealousy apparently motivated the request. "Tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me," he urged.

The desire for wealth and material possessions seems to be a basic desire of man in this age of emphasis upon money and goods. Ours is a materialistic society. Once, in a remote region of Mexico, a young man told me his greatest desire was to go to North America, specifically the United States. I asked him why. He replied: "Because everyone in America is rich." He, too, wanted to be rich. Not everyone in the U. S. is as wealthy as he probably thought. He knew something about Americans, however. Material wealth appears to be a basic goal for many.

Jesus responded to his inquirer politely but firmly. He refused to rule against one brother in favor of another. His refusal to act as a judge was based on his knowledge that God alone is the final judge in the lives of men.

Then Jesus issued another

numerous words to caution them to be careful to avoid the clutching hands of covetousness (greed; desire for material abundance). Life is more than possessions. As one has said: "Life is not so much what you possess as it is what possesses you."

Jesus gave the parable of the foolish rich farmer to illustrate the declaration about wealth and the dangers of materialism (12:16-21). A wise man lays up treasure in heaven for himself. If his barns are full and his heart is empty, he has, in reality, gained nothing.

II. TRUST GOD TO PROVIDE (12:22-31)

The Savior addressed his disciples specifically (22-31). He wanted his followers to pay particular attention to his lesson on life. Here, as in several other places, Luke records some of the teachings contained in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7). It is possible that this is Luke's account of the Sermon. However, Luke does not put all the parts of the Sermon together in one section, as does Matthew. It is more probable that Luke occasionally repeats portions of the Sermon for added emphasis and application.

"Be not anxious for your life," Jesus said. In modern language the master teacher instructed his disciples not to be overly concerned, or worried, about the basics of life support.

Jesus meant that men should not fret about the provisions for physical needs. They are not unimportant, of course, but life is far more than what we need to eat or wear. The Master was not advising us to be foolish and forget those necessities. God himself will provide for his own creation. Physical life, sustained by food and clothing, is nothing when compared to the soul, or real life, or a person (12:22-23).

Consider how God cares for the ravens who fly through the air. He feeds them, though they raise no crops of grain to be stored in barns. If God provides for the birds, how much more does he provide for you? You are made in his image.

To further demonstrate the folly of worry, Jesus pointed out the utter futility of anxiety. Worry about your physical life (though we know it can do great psychological harm). For example, said Jesus, do you think you can add a span (18 in-

as answer is "No." If you can do nothing as important aspects of life, how do you expect to change the more significant ones? Leave it to God and relieve yourself of unnecessary mental burdens. God never meant for us to overload ourselves with concern about things we could not control. Besides, if our concern could control life, we might decide we did not need God.

Jesus then chose another illustration from the cycles of nature to dramatize his lesson on God's provision (vv. 27-28). The beautiful lilies of the field do nothing more than stand there as tributes to the majesty and beauty of God's creation. Solomon, the wealthiest king of Israel, with all that God gave him, had no adornments in his possession as beautiful as the flowers in the field.

Surely the lesson is clear (v. 28). If God cares about the grain in the field which we put in the oven to make into bread, he must care very much about you. Jesus wanted every disciple to understand and say to himself: "God will provide for me."

Yet, Christ knew that the basic difficulty for man is one of trust. He rebuked his disciples by describing their faith as "little." "O ye of little faith." He has to say that to us too often.

There is our problem — our faith, or lack of faith (v. 28). We have doubtful minds, minds full of doubt. We seek our own provisions for fear that God will not take care of even the basics. Jesus said, with a firmness that demanded attention, "Do not pursue your own food and drink and do not doubt." That was his way of saying: "Trust God."

God knows what you need. If you spend your time worrying about material goods, you are no different from those who have no faith in God at all. You, Christian, have a Heavenly Father who knows what you need and who cares about you. You spend your time seeking the kingdom of God (v. 31, see also Matt. 6:33) and those "things" will come to you.

Priority for Kingdom citizens is the Kingdom. With that established in your heart, life is in focus and the picture is clear.

Don't feel sorry for yourself. Feel sorry for those who have to live with you.